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REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

ON THE

State of the GAOLS of the City of London,

&c.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be printed,*
9 *May* 1814.

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R E P O R T.

THE COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into the State of The GAOL of *Newgate*, and *The Poultry*, *Giltspur-street*, *Ludgate*, and *Borough* COMPTERS; and to report their Observations thereupon, and of any Improvement which may be practicable therein;—and who were empowered to report The MINUTES of The EVIDENCE taken before Them, to The House;—HAVE examined the Matter to them referred, and agreed upon the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee find the Gaol of *Newgate*, as at presented regulated, is able conveniently to hold 110 Debtors, and 317 Criminal Prisoners; and App^{x} N° 3. it is the opinion of the Surgeon, that when the whole number exceeds 500, great danger of infectious disorder is to be apprehended. App^{x} p. 54. On April the 5th, it contained 160 Debtors and 326 Criminals, and in January last the whole number amounted to 822.

That part of the Prison which is appropriated to Debtors, is divided into two yards, one for men, and one for women. Upon that for the men are three App^{x} p. 15. buildings, called The Master's Side, The Cabin Side, and The Common Side: the latter is for the poorest description of Debtors; and for admission into the two former a fee of three shillings is paid; and the Prisoners in them share in none of the charities, but have the advantage of living in better society. The rooms are generally about 15 feet wide, and from 23 to 36 feet in length, and contain in each of them, day and night, from ten to fifteen men, when the Prison is not crowded, but double that number have been occasionally placed in them. One room is, in the day-time, appropriated to work; and when Your Committee visited the Prison, they found there some persons industriously employed. For the government of the Debtors, the Keeper names six persons, and one of them is elected by his fellow-prisoners to hold the office of Steward of the Prison. In the same manner, in each ward, he names three persons, one of whom is, by the App^{x} p. 22. inhabitants of that ward, chosen to be their Steward. It is the business of the Steward of the Prison to preserve order, to see the allowances weighed, and, assisted by three Auditors, freely chosen by the Prisoners, to examine the poor-box, and to superintend the receipt and distribution of charities; in return for which, he receives small gratuities, and an additional allowance of provisions; and similar to his, in their subordinate departments, are the duties of the Stewards of the separate wards. These, and other regulations for the preservation of order, and management of the Debtors Fund, have been approved of by the App^{x} N° 7. Aldermen and Judges.

Misconduct, in any Prisoner, is punished by removal to what is called The Disorderly Ward, which is locked up one hour sooner than the others; and if App^{x} p. 19. that punishment be not sufficient, by confinement in a cell. p. 21. The doors are every morning opened at eight o'clock; and, with the exception of four hours on Sunday, visitors are indiscriminately admitted from nine in the morning till nine at night, when they depart, sometimes to the amount of two hundred.

Appx p. 19. p. 32. Wine and beer are sold at the bar of the Prison, at the same price as in the public houses, and no one within the Gaol is entitled to any profit on their sale. The quantity which each Prisoner is allowed to purchase is no otherwise limited than that he shall not have, at one time, more than one bottle of wine, or one quart of ale; a regulation which little tends to preserve sobriety and order. The Act of Parliament against the introduction of spirituous liquors is conspicuously hung up, and all pains are taken, though sometimes ineffectually, to see that it is enforced.

Appx p. 16—18. No bedding is provided: The poorer description of Prisoners sleep on the boards, between two rugs given by the City; those who can afford it hire beds at sixpence the night, from persons who carry on this traffic with the Prison. The allowance of food to Debtors is fourteen ounces of bread a day, and eight stone of meat in every week, divided amongst all; but as this quantity never varies with the numbers in aid of whose subsistence it is given, it forms a very precarious addition; and the whole allowance is barely sufficient, without the assistance of their friends, to support life. The manner of distributing the bread, which is given on every alternate day, is liable to this objection, that the Prisoner is tempted on the first day to eat the allowance which is meant also to support him on the second; and that a person brought to Prison immediately after the hour of distribution, receives nothing for forty-eight hours, and may be six days without receiving any meat.

Appx p. 22. App x p. 38. To the Debtors, no coals or candles, no mops or pails are given: The Master's Side Prisoners provide themselves with these necessaries; and those on the Common Side are able to procure them by subscription and garnish, and by means of various charities and legacies. Your Committee feel it difficult to give an opinion upon what ought to be the allowance made to Debtors for their comfort and subsistence, and under what regulations it ought to be distributed. It is not fitting that the poorest should hardly be unable, by their allowance, to exist without the assistance of their friends, and if that should be wanting, that they should be in part supported by broken meat from taverns, and other casual and uncertain charities; nor is it reasonable by an ample and indiscriminate distribution of bedding and coals and provisions, to incur expense on behalf of those who have ability to support themselves, and by too easy a subsistence, to leave no inducement to that industry, which it ought to be the first object in every Prison to encourage. It seems then that a full allowance ought not to be general, it ought only to be given to those whose necessity cannot be doubted, and who are content to live on the Common Side of the Prison; those who are on the Master's Side must be presumed to be more able to provide for themselves; and even on each of these sides, different gradations may be made, the allowance diminishing as the accommodation and rooms improve. It might be made conditional too upon cleanliness, upon attendance at chapel, and other good conduct; and if a system of work were established, it might be withheld from the idle.

Some deduction might also be made from such of the Prisoners as are entitled to the daily payment of sixpence from their creditors; though from the length of time for which that payment may be delayed, and the expense of obtaining it (which amounts to £. 1. 6*s.*) it is received by few: five only of all the Debtors now in Newgate are in its receipt.

Appx p. 17—20. p. 22. Garnish is demanded from all the Prisoners on their admission to prison, and fees on their discharge: The garnish is extorted by them from each other, and varies, in the different wards, from thirteen shillings to one guinea; an inability or unwillingness to pay it is punished by keeping the defaulter from the fire, by not allowing him to partake in the charities, and by other means of annoyance. It is a disgraceful and oppressive custom, and ought not to be permitted

permitted to exist. It has been abolished in all the well-regulated Prisons in the country; and Your Committee have it in evidence from the Gaoler of Newgate, that a very small allowance as a compensation, and a positive order from the Magistrates, would cure this evil at once.

From every Debtor, those of the Court of Conscience excepted, a fee is due to the Sheriff for his Writ of Liberate, amounting in Middlesex to 4*s.* 6*d.* for the first Action, and 2*s.* 6*d.* for every other; in London the demand is rather higher, and beyond this he may be further imprisoned until 6*s.* 10*d.* shall have been paid to the Gaoler, and 2*s.* to the Turnkey: And Your Committee indeed regret that any right should exist, by law or by custom, of exacting fees from Prisoners under these or indeed any circumstances. But when the Debtor's debt is paid, or when he has abandoned his property to his Creditor, and, destitute of every thing but his clothes and the instruments of his trade, looks forward to his liberty, it seems unreasonable that further demands should still be made on him, and that his liberation may yet be delayed until he shall have paid this new debt, arising only out of the satisfaction of all his former debts. That these fees have not been always extorted, nor made the subject of fresh imprisonment, is only to be attributed to charitable institutions, and to the humanity of the Gaoler, whose right has never been enforced against the poor and unassisted. But Your Committee feel, that the character of the present Gaoler is no security for the conduct of his successors, and that this power of oppression ought not to exist. Appˣ p. 20.

The female Debtors Side is subject to similar regulations with that of the men, but it is less crowded, and appeared perfectly clean and well managed.

The Criminal Side of Newgate contains six yards; 1st. The press yard, for Prisoners under sentence of death, to which are attached fifteen cells, each about nine feet long by seven wide. By the rule of the Prison, which is however much relaxed, the Prisoners are locked up in their cells from two in the afternoon till nine in the morning. Two Prisoners are generally, for the sake of society, and in some cases to prevent suicide, put into each cell; though it has frequently happened, from delay in making the report, that the numbers have so accumulated as to make it necessary to confine three together. They have, with the exception of those condemned for murder, the same allowance with the other Prisoners, and are permitted to purchase what wine or beer they please. Their friends are allowed freely to visit them between the hours of twelve and two; and every proper attention appears to be paid them. The Ordinary attends them every Tuesday and Thursday after sentence; and, after the order for execution, every day: Such as are Dissenters are permitted to see ministers of their own tenets; and a Roman Catholic clergyman is very properly paid by the City for attending on such as are of his persuasion. On the Sunday before the execution, all the Prisoners under sentence of death, and who are of the Church of England, are obliged to attend divine service; they are placed in an open pew in the centre of the Chapel; and previous to an execution, a black coffin is placed on the table before them. Your Committee feel this exposure of the condemned persons to be cruel and unnecessary; and it is consequently stated to have this bad effect, that it induces many to profess dissenting tenets, to avoid the being thus held up to public view, in this last awful situation; and in general only the most hardened consent so to appear. Appˣ p. 24—25. Appˣ p. 26—27. Appˣ p. 56—57. Appˣ p. 26. Appˣ p. 57.

In consequence of the Report in 1811 of the Committee on Penitentiary Houses, some attempt has been made to separate the tried from the untried Prisoners; and the yard called the Chapel Yard is appropriated to such as are charged with felony, and to such as have been convicted or are charged with misdemeanors. It is calculated to hold in five wards seventy Prisoners, and contained, on April 4th, seventy-eight. Those in custody for misdemeanors sleep Appˣ p. 27. Appˣ N° 3.

in a different ward from those committed on suspicion of felony, though in the day-time they mingle in the same yard. The rooms throughout the Prison are fifteen feet wide, but vary in length. On one side of them the floor is a little raised in an inclined plane, on the top of which is a beam; and on these boards the Prisoners sleep, the beam serving for a pillow; no beds are given, but each Prisoner has two rugs: And the allowance of room, when the prison has only such a number as can be conveniently lodged, is one foot and a half to each person; when, as has been frequently the case, nearly double the convenient number is placed in a ward, they sleep in the same crowded situation on each side of the room, the whole floor being covered, with the exception of a passage in the middle. In the classification of the different descriptions of Prisoners it has been usual, and such a system is sanctioned by the Legislature in the Act 24 Geo. III. c. 54. to confine together all persons convicted of misdemeanors. In the opinion of Your Committee this classification is far from just. He who has committed a common assault ought not to be made the companion of the perjured or the fraudulent, and still less of those who are committed for attempts at the most abominable crimes. And in the same class with all these the libellist is also included, who is frequently a man of feeling and education, and whose crime, however dangerous and reprehensible, seldoms carries with it into society that degree of disgrace which should subject the offender to be placed on a level with the more profligate criminals above alluded to, In the opinion of Your Committee, this Gaol, whilst the classification of crimes is so little observed, is not fit for the confinement of persons convicted of libel. Prisoners for misdemeanors are not in irons, but all the others are, except such as have deserved to be freed from them by long good behaviour; they are considered to be necessary as a mark to distinguish the Prisoners from strangers. But if this intercourse with visitors were more limited, or permitted only through a grating, the irons might, with perfect safety, be discontinued. In the middle yard are confined persons under sentence of transportation, and convicted of felony; their number in April was eighty-two; and it will conveniently hold eighty. It is to the great delay which frequently occurs in the removal of persons under such sentences, that the crowded state of Newgate has frequently been owing. By a return to Your Committee it appears, that their numbers are very seldom less than 100, and that at one time, in December last, they amounted to 236. This delay is one of the main causes of all the inconveniencies felt in the Prison, and very great good would at once result from the early and regular removal of the transports.

App^x p. 27—28.
p. 29.
App^x p. 28.
p. 40.
App^x N° 3.
App^x N° 4.

The Master's Side will contain seventy persons, but is seldom full; it has now forty-nine. Prisoners for every crime, and of every description, liable only to removal for misconduct, may be admitted to it, on the payment of 13 *s.* 6 *d.* and 2 *s.* 6 *d.* per week for the use of a bed. Their treatment differs little from that of the other Prisoners, except that they partake of no charities, and are in better society. They are, as much as possible, in their rooms, placed in different classes, but all meet in the common yard. Similar regulations prevail in what is called The State Side, which is for a still better description of Prisoners, and the fee for admission to which is two guineas, and a rent of 10 *s.* 6 *d.* for a single bed, and 7 *s.* when two sleep in one bed. It has accommodation for forty, and contains now twenty prisoners. The women's yards, with cells and infirmary, are calculated for seventy persons: Seventy-five, with fifteen children, were, on April 4th, confined in it; and in January last, one hundred and thirty were, at one time, crowded together, of all ages, of all descriptions, tried and untried; and even those under sentence of death are not removed, till the order for their execution comes down. Amongst them are now two girls of thirteen, one of twelve, and one of ten years old, exposed to all the contagion of profligacy, which must prevail in this part of the prison. A division is here also made

App^x N° 3.
App^x p. 31.
App^x p. 33.
App^x N° 3.
App^x N° 5.

made for Master's Side Prisoners, for admission to which a fee of 13 *s.* 6 *d.* is Appx p. 36. paid; but they and the others have but one common yard, which is extremely narrow and inconvenient. Amongst the women, no visitors, except in the Appx p. 35. instance of very near relations, are admitted; an intercourse between them and their friends *takes place* through *an iron railing.* Into every other part of the Prison visitors are allowed to come at any hour, from nine o'clock till dusk, but may only depart at stated times. Coals, and mops and brooms, are nearly to a sufficient quantity supplied to the Criminal Side of Newgate; and the allowance of food is, in a small degree, better than that to the Debtors; but it is not sufficient properly to support life, without the assistance of friends, and casual charity; and, in the opinion of Your Committee, it ought to be increased. It is hard to leave in dependence on their friends, men, many of whom are committed to prison only on suspicion of crimes, taken too from their trades, and placed in a prison in which hardly any facilities for work are afforded; whilst their Families are deprived of that assistance on which they have been accustomed to depend. A very small increase of allowance would perfectly support them, and at the same time render unnecessary the unlimited concourse of visitors, by which it is to be feared the order and regularity becoming a prison are much impaired. From all the Criminals, with the exception only of those on the State Side, garnish Appx p. 36. is exacted, liable to the same objections as have been already stated against it; and from them too fees are due, on particular occasions, to the Keeper. Every convicted Felon, on his discharge, after a term of imprisonment, pays 18 *s.* 10 *d.* Appx p. 39. though about again to try the world, under all the disadvantages of ruined character and circumstances, and the bad habits, and sometimes bad health, contracted during a long residence in a prison. Other fees are exacted on pardons, and from persons convicted of misdemeanors; every one of which Your Committee are of opinion ought to be abolished; and they are glad to find, that a Resolution to that effect passed the Common Council in 1810, though it is not Appx N° 10. yet acted upon. Acquitted Prisoners are, as by law entitled, discharged on the moment of their acquittal; frequently at a late hour, and sometimes without money, without friends, and without a habitation in London; and instances Appx p. 39. have, in consequence, been known of their being brought back again on the same day, on a fresh charge, to Newgate. Those against whom no bill is found, are discharged in the morning; and the females have received one shilling each from a private charity. From the want of room, and the danger of permitting the use of some tools, and the difficulty of procuring work, the Prisoners are but little employed; but it is the opinion of the Keeper, that the best results would Appx p. 37. be derived from fitting up a yard for the purpose of work, and giving other encouragements. The increased allowance suggested by Your Committee should, if such a system were well regulated, be given only to the industrious, and the earnings be suffered to accumulate, either for the Families of the Prisoners during their confinement, or for their assistance upon leaving the Prison.

Four lunatics are now confined in Newgate; two of them separately, but two with the other Prisoners, one of whom would, but for his insanity, have been convicted of murder. This is a practice against which a Resolution of the Common Council was passed four years ago, but which still unfortunately continues Appx N° 10. to exist; but it is hoped, that when the new Bedlam is finished, they will be all removed.

The Keeper of Newgate receives a salary of £.450. in addition to which Appx p. 15. all the fees and rents are paid to him, and from this fund he pays the servants of the Prison; above which expense an income remains to himself of from £.600. to £.1000. a year, which is not, in the opinion of Your Committee, too great for an office of such difficulties and responsibility; but they greatly object to the manner in which that salary is paid. No part of a Gaoler's income ought to be exacted from his Prisoners. Such an income, frequently ill paid, to a

humane Gaoler, leaves him also too much open to the imputation of harshness, whilst it gives to a harsh Gaoler a power of oppression; it also leads to the employment of too small a number, and an inferior description of servants. The fees ought all to be abolished; and whatever rents it may be thought proper to preserve, to be accounted for, the Gaoler receiving a fixed salary. Your Committee cannot leave this part of the subject without stating, that they believe Mr. Newman to be conscientiously attentive to the duties of his office, and humane in their performance. The medical department is under Mr. Box, who
App^{x} p. 53. receives a salary of £. 150. in addition to which he is repaid by the City
p. 54. for any quantity of medicines he may use. There are three Infirmaries; one for
p. 55. the male Debtors; one for the male and one for the female Criminals. No apartment has been set aside for sick female Debtors, and one has very rarely been wanted. A man on each side is chosen by the Surgeon from the best educated of the Prisoners, and employed daily to go round the Prison, and to examine and report all the Sick, who are immediately removed to the Infirmary, and liberally furnished with attendance, and every thing which can be necessary. Mr. Box states, that since his appointment in 1802, no fatal case of infectious disease has occurred. Pulmonary complaints are the most difficult of cure in this and every other Gaol; but Mr. Box has not observed any disorder to be unusually prevalent. The average yearly number of deaths since 1802 has been only nine; and Your Committee have every reason to be satisfied with the liberality of the City, and the attention of Mr. Box to this department. They have only one remark to make, namely, that it would be satisfactory if every Prisoner committed to Newgate, before he is allowed to mingle with the other Prisoners, were to undergo a medical examination. It is a precaution observed in all well-governed Prisons, and seems particularly called for in one so apparently exposed to infection as Newgate.

App^{x} p. 55. The Ordinary, Dr. Forde, receives a salary of £. 250. and is provided with
p. 56. a house. He states the attendance at Chapel, which is entirely voluntary, to be far from regular, and his congregation frequently inattentive and disorderly.
p. 57. The different classes of Prisoners are all within view of each other; and before the service begins, conversations take place between the men and women, and every
App^{x} p. 56. sort of noise prevails. The Keeper himself never attends, when on every ground of giving a good example and preserving due decorum by his authority, he ought if possible never to be absent; and but three or four of the Turnkeys are present, and attempt very insufficiently to preserve order. No Clerk is appointed to lead the Prisoners in their responses, and much inconvenience is felt by such a congregation from the want of this guidance. The sacrament is never administered, except to the Condemned. Beyond his attendance in Chapel, and on those who are sentenced to death, Dr. Forde feels but few duties to be attached
App^{x} p. 58. to his office. He knows nothing of the state of morals in the Prison; he never sees any of the Prisoners in private; though fourteen boys and girls, from nine to thirteen years old, were in April last in Newgate, he does not consider any attention to them a point of his duty; he never knows that any have been sick, till
App^{x} p. 59. he gets a warning to attend their funeral; and does not go to the Infirmary, for it is not in his instructions.

Most of the evils and inconveniencies of Newgate have proceeded from its being in extent wholly inadequate to the purposes for which it was intended; and the attention of the Common Council being called to it in 1810, by a Letter to them from Sir Richard Phillips, a Committee to enquire was appointed, which
App^{x} N° 9. produced a valuable Report and several beneficial Resolutions, and among them one for the building of a new Prison for the reception of Debtors. This building is to receive the Debtors also of Giltspur-street, the Poultry and Ludgate Compters, and is in a state of much forwardness; hopes are entertained that it will be fit for the reception of prisoners in the course of a year. Newgate will then only contain

contain such persons as have received the sentence of the law, and the commitments from the different Compters and the County Prison, previously to every Sessions held at the Old Bailey. This will give room for that attention to the comfort, morals and industry of the Prisoners, which, in the present crowded state of the Prison, is hardly practicable; for their comfort, with increased space, an increased allowance and bedding are absolutely necessary; and their moral conduct will best be improved by a minute classification of ages, sexes, and offences, and by affording every facility of employment; perhaps this last object might be forwarded by giving a room towards the street, where articles manufactured by the Prisoners might be offered for sale. Many of the Magistrates of the City appear, to Your Committee, to be active and frequent in their visits to this and the other Gaols, and Reports from them appear to find a ready attention from the Committee of City Lands; but a still more attentive and vigilant system of inspection, by regular meetings held at the Prison, would, in the opinion of Your Committee, be highly beneficial. It would be useful to have books kept, in which the Surgeon and Gaoler might enter the occurrences in their several departments; and one in which the visiting Magistrates might write their remarks, as a guide for their conduct, and that of their successors. The opinion of Mr. Howard is strongly in favour of the appointment also of one of the superintending Magistrates to act solely as an Inspector; and where the Gaols are so numerous and extensive as in London, this opinion seems well worthy of consideration. Your Committee cannot better state his duties, than in the words of Mr. Howard:—"The Inspector should make his visits once in a week, or at most in a fortnight, changing his days. He should take with him a memorandum of all the rules, and enquire into the observance or neglect of them. He should (as is done in some of our Hospitals) look into every room, to see if it be clean, &c. He should speak with every Prisoner, hear all complaints, and immediately correct what he finds manifestly wrong; what he doubts of he may refer to his brethren in office, at their next meeting. A good Gaoler will be pleased with this scrutiny, it will do him honour and confirm him in his station. To a less worthy Gaoler the examination is more needful, in order to his being reprimanded, and if he be incorrigible, to his being discharged."

Criminals apprehended in the Western district of London are committed to the *Giltspur-street Compter* for trial, and those from the Eastern district to the *Poultry Compter*. (App^{x} p. 41—49.) Debtors arrested in the two districts are alternately put into the custody of the Gaolers of these two Compters, and all from amongst them who are freemen or widows of freemen of London, may, at their own choice, be removed to a third Prison, called The Ludgate Compter. Since 1804, when the old Poultry Compter appeared to be too much out of repair to be any longer used as a Prison, the Debtors and Felons of both districts have been kept, with the exception of a short period when their numbers were too great, in the Giltspur-street Compter, and the night charges only taken to the old Poultry. These three Compters are now under one roof, and are kept by two Gaolers. The Giltspur-street and Ludgate Prisoners are under Mr. Teague, and the Poultry Prisoners under Mr. Kirby. (App^{x} p. 41—51.) Ludgate is divided from the rest of the building, and has a separate entrance; but the Giltspur-street and Poultry Prisoners are in many instances mingled together. (App^{x} p. 42.) The two classes of male Debtors sleep in separate wards, but have one common yard; the female Debtors live entirely together, so do the female Criminals and the Master's Side Criminals; but on the Common Side they are separated, according to the district from which they have been committed; and even where they are mixed, one of the Gaolers has no authority over the Prisoners of the other; all which forms a very uselessly complicated arrangement. The Prison is calculated conveniently to contain 89 Debtors and 56 Criminals; and at the beginning of April it held (App^{x} N^{o} 15.)

68 Debtors and 55 Criminals. The proper number has occasionally been exceeded, but never in a degree to be compared with Newgate; and the Prisoners here are in general much better provided for than in that Prison. To each class of Debtors a day-room is supplied, in which no one sleeps; the bed-room is furnished with bedsteads; and to each Prisoner is given two rugs, and a canvass ticking filled with straw, which is changed whenever it is requisite. Appx p. 44.

The allowance is ten ounces of bread a day, given on every alternate day, and six pounds of potatoes weekly for each Prisoner; in addition to which the Sheriffs give seven stone of meat, distributed on every Saturday, amongst the whole number of each class. Mops and brooms, but no coals and candles, are allowed by the City; the coals are bought from garnish and subscriptions, and the produce of the charities, which amount, in the Poultry, to £. 76. and in Giltspur-street, to £. 52. a year; besides which they have occasional donations of coals and provisions from the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and others. The allowance of bread is very properly withheld from such as are not cleanly in their persons, and that of meat from those who do not attend divine service; exceptions being made in favour of Catholics and Jews. These and other rules were approved of by three Aldermen and three of the Judges, and are unexceptionable. Appx p. 43. Appx No 13—14. Appx No 16.

The Criminal Side is divided into cells of about eight feet square, containing generally two and occasionally three, and sometimes even four Prisoners; and their division into small numbers, contributes much to the good order of the Prison. The Criminals are allowed 10 ounces of bread daily and six pounds of potatoes, but no meat; an allowance which is certainly very insufficient. To every cell a canvass tick is given, and two rugs to each Prisoner, and each yard is well supplied with water; but that for the Giltspur-street men criminals is much too contracted, and the day-rooms are generally very small and inconvenient. That which is most objectionable in the Prison, is the want of proper classification. Your Committee found in it, with much regret, two men committed for not being able to give security in a charge of bastardy, and one for a common assault and unable to find bail, confined in the same yard with men charged with felony; and obliged every night to sleep in the same bed with two of these their fellow-prisoners. A person so committed for bastardy, approaches much nearer to a Debtor than to a Felon; his person is kept as a security to the Parish for a debt due to it; and it is contrary to every principle of justice, to subject him to the shame and contagion of such ignominious society. Appx p. 46—47.

Similar remarks will apply to the case of a person committed to Prison, on a charge so little connected with disgrace as that for a common assault. The person whom Your Committee found so imprisoned, had been sent to Gaol after the January Sessions; the bill against him was found at the February Sessions; and though he was anxious at that time to take his trial, it was postponed to the Sessions following: for it is the practice in the City of London not to try a misdemeanor at the Sessions in which the bill is found. This practice may be productive of much hardship; and Your Committee strongly recommend that it be altered, at least as far as regards Prisoners not able to find bail, and giving notice to their prosecutors, of their wish to proceed to trial. It would too be greatly advantageous if, instead of dividing the yards by the districts of the City of London, the distinction were drawn between felonies and inferior offences. Though intoxication is prohibited, the Prisoners are allowed to purchase what wine and beer they please. Beer and tobacco are sold by the Turnkeys, who act as agents for the Publicans, and receive a remuneration in proportion to the quantity which they sell. This practice, which has no place in Newgate, ought, in the opinion of Your Committee, to be discontinued here. No servant of the Prison should profit by that which may promote disorder amongst the Prisoners. Appx p. 48.

A fee of 14 *s.* 8 *d.* is paid for admission to the Master's Side, and 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a week for a bed. Other fees are also payable here on discharges, which are liable to all the objections already urged against fees in general: But one amongst them is more than usually objectionable; it is the fee of 3 *s.* 6 *d.* payable by night charges, when discharged before a Magistrate. A person is taken up at night on suspicion, he passes the night in a gaol, the suspicion is in the morning proved to be groundless, and he is called upon to pay for his liberation. All fees on acquittal are abolished by Act of Parliament; surely in cases where no ground even exists for proceeding to trial, none ought to be exacted. The Keepers of these Compters are paid annually each £. 280. (Mr. Teague receiving £. 200. additional as Keeper of Ludgate,) besides receiving, as in Newgate, the fees and rents, out of which they pay their servants. A fixed salary would here also be preferable. They both appeared to be attentive to their duties. Your Committee, on visiting the prison, found no appearance of ill health; and the Infirmary seemed furnished with every thing that could be necessary; but as the Surgeon had been very newly appointed, they did not examine him. The Chapel is described as being extremely well attended, part of the allowance being withheld from such as neglect that duty. A Clerk is appointed, and paid by the City; and the service is performed by Mr. Davies, who has been thirty-four years Chaplain to the Prison. When younger, and in good health, he found himself of much use in frequently visiting the Prisoners on week days, and in conversing with and advising them in private; but he is now seventy-two years of age, and afflicted with an asthma, which compels him generally to reside in the country, and he is only able to perform the Sunday's duty; and Your Committee hope that the City will, from his age and service, consider him entitled to such a pension as may enable him to leave his office to be filled by a more active successor.

Appx p. 47.
Appx p. 49.
Appx p. 41.
p. 49.
Appx p. 73—74.

Ludgate is a Prison only for Debtors who are freemen or widows of freemen of London; their number is now 20, and has been 44, and the accommodations are sufficient for 24. The allowance is better than in the Giltspur-street Compter, ten stone of meat being given amongst the whole number, besides the same quantity of bread and potatoes; and they are much assisted by a fund of charities amounting to £. 87. 6 *s.* 9 *d.* a year, besides legacies given in bread, coals and meat. The only objection to this Compter has been the want of room, from which it is to be hoped the Prisoners will, in the new Prison, be relieved. The Chaplain, Dr. Rose, appears to be most attentive to his duty, and assiduous in paying visits to the Prisoners, though he complains much of the want of a private room, in which he may converse with them. The rules and orders are excellent.

Appx No 19.
Appx p. 50.

When the new building is completed, these Compters will, with little alterations, be amply sufficient for proper classification and all the other purposes for which they are intended. They will be used as a House of Correction for the City of London, and for Night Charges, and for receiving Criminals previously to their trial.

The *Borough Compter* is under the original jurisdiction of the Lord Mayor of London Aldermen and Common Council, who in their deputation to Sir Watkin Lewes, of the office of Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, have granted to him this Gaol or Prison with the custody of the Prisoners therein, and under his appointment John Law has, for the last five years, been the acting Gaoler. It is a small Prison, in part appropriated to the reception of night charges, which are occasionally, though seldom, committed to it, and for whom the accommodation is amply sufficient. A fee of 2*s.* is exacted on their discharge; although it is stated in Sir Watkin Lewes's appointment, that he "shall not, nor will, during "his continuance in the said office or place, either take himself, or permit or "allow his Gaoler to take have or receive any fees or gratuities whatsoever,

Appx No 26.

" for the admission, detainer or discharge of any Prisoners who are or shall " be committed to the said Gaol on a charge of felony, misdemeanor or breach " of the peace."

The remainder of the Prison is used for the confinement of Debtors, arrested by process from the Borough Court and Court of Requests, but of whom far the greater proportion are of the latter description. The total number during the last three years has been;

App^x N° 22.

	From the Borough Court.	From the Court of Requests.
1811 - - - -	3 - - - -	251.
1812 - - - -	5 - - - -	318.
1813 - - - -	3 - - - -	307.

And the average number at any one time is from 20 to 25; but on the 4th of April they were only 12, having with them about 20 children. The Debtors from the Borough Court are liable on discharge to the payment of a fee App^x p. 61. of 10*s.* 10*d.*; those from the Court of Requests are by law exonerated from all fees, if they remain in prison during the whole term of their imprisonment, but if the Debtor compound or pay his debt before that period, he is liable to a caption fee of 5*s.* or more, in proportion to the amount or number of his debts; and Your Committee, on visiting this Prison, found two Prisoners who were remaining in confinement, solely from their inability to pay this fee.

The term of imprisonment is limited in the following manner; viz.

For all sums under and up to 20*s.* - - - - -	20 days.
Above 20*s.* and not exceeding 40*s.* - - - -	40 d°.
Above 40*s.* and not exceeding £. 3. - - - -	60 d°.
Above £. 3. and not exceeding £. 5. - - - -	100 d°.

But for every separate debt a further term of imprisonment is imposed in proportion to its amount; and the costs for the very lowest action are 9*s.* Debtors App^x p. 67. are sometimes here for a debt of 1*s.* and it need not be added, that they are generally of the very poorest description. The building, if in good repair, would be amply sufficient to lodge many more than are usually confined in it; but the court-yard is only 19 feet square, and affording but little room for air and [illegible] exercise. The Gaoler has no salary, but in lieu of one, Sir Watkin Lewes has given him an office in the Court of Requests, which occupies nearly the whole of his time, at some distance from the Prison, and must prevent him from properly attending to his duties as Keeper. Besides which, this office is similar to that of a Sheriff's Officer, which is one of those pointed out by Mr. Howard, as incompatible with that of Gaoler. It is his duty to carry into effect arrests and executions; and as the Prisoners are at once taken to his own Gaol, he has powers liable to much abuse. He has, as Gaoler, the advantage of living in the house rent-free, and has received for the consumption of his Family, an unlimited allowance of bread, which, though the claim to it is recognized by Sir Watkin App^x N° 27. Lewes, seems never to have been authorized by the City; and the baker's accounts are so drawn up as to give to the charge, though sanctioned by long usage, a great appearance of fraud. The Committee have, since their sitting, been informed that this allowance is now discontinued. This Prison, as unfortunately is frequently the case with small Prisons in privileged jurisdictions, has been singularly neglected, and the consequences of that neglect cannot be better described than by the Petition of the Gaoler, presented to the App^x p. 65. Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, on the 22d of last March. By that petition, and it is proved by evidence before Your Committee, that the statements which it contains are well founded, it appears, that the windows were App^x p. 62—63. much broken, the flooring in one of the wards destroyed, and the other wards much damaged and decayed; that there were not more than twelve rugs, and a less number of blankets, to frequently thirty persons sleeping on the boards; that

that the daily allowance was only a twopenny loaf; that no coals were allowed, App^x p. 67. nor mops, pails and brooms; and that the Sick had no medical attendance. App^x p. 62—63. In addition to which, Your Committee have to lament, that no Divine Service is performed in the Prison; or any person appointed to do that duty. Such are some of the evils which have resulted from the negligence of those whose duty it was to inspect and provide for this Prison; a negligence the more culpable, as ignorance of its state cannot be pleaded in its excuse. Sir Watkin Lewes has been for 20 years the Bailiff of the Borough, and Keeper of the Gaol; though of App^x p. 69. this last fact he himself appears not to have been aware, he has sometimes seen the distress of those confined in it, and has had many representations made to him of their distress, and has even occasionally taken preliminary steps for obtaining relief; yet it does not appear that application was ever made by him to the proper Committee. About two years ago, upon the request of the Gaoler, twelve rugs and twelve blankets were sent from the City, and at the same time the Sheriff sent two chaldron and a half of coals. On the 18th September last, without the knowledge of the Gaoler, a petition to the Lord Mayor was sent App^x p. 64. by the Prisoners, and Mr. Kirby was sent to make enquiries, and upon communication with him, Mr. Law determined himself to present another petition. He drew up one for that purpose, and gave a copy of it to Sir Watkin Lewes, App^x p. 66. who objected to it on the ground of some informality, and it was never presented. But on the 22d of March, Mr. Law actually did, after some slight alterations, present one; and Your Committee have seen with pleasure, that the best atonement has since that time been made for past negligence. Orders were immediately given for the repair of the building. Mr. Law, on the 5th April, was App^x p. 71. authorized to give to every Prisoner in his custody, 14 ounces of bread daily and two pounds of meat weekly, and to provide for the use of the Prisoners a bushel of coals daily. A Surgeon has been appointed; and Your Committee, upon visiting the prison, found that canvass ticks with straw and rugs had been given, and that workmen were employed in repairing every part of the Prison. In addition to which, they recommend the appointment of a Clergyman, the adoption of rules similar to those of the Ludgate Compter, the abolition of the small garnish of 2*s.* 6*d.* which is very improperly paid to Mr. Law; and some other mode of remunerating the Gaoler, than one so improper in other respects, App^x p. 72. and which compels him so much to neglect his Gaol. A material improvement might too, with little difficulty, be made in the distribution of the building: The ward for the female Debtors has a free communication with the rest of the App^x p. 61. Prison, and but one court yard is given to both men and women; which arrangement is productive of many inconveniencies. But if the present door to the women's ward were closed, and means of access made to a small yard, meant for the use of Felons, but never occupied by any, these inconveniencies would at once be removed. It appears also desirable that the Commissioners of the Court of Conscience in the Borough of Southwark, who have, under the local Act giving them that power, selected this Prison, as that to which they commit their Prisoners, should themselves occasionally inspect it.

The plans for the new Prison have been shewn to Your Committee; but the building is now in a state of so much forwardness, that they feel that any improvement now suggested could with difficulty be adopted. It is meant to contain 544 prisoners; and the outer wall incloses a space of ground less in extent than one acre: part, too, of this space, will be but little beneficial to the prisoners, it being left as an interval between the outer wall and the Prison. It is App^x p. 76. much to be wished that more ground could be acquired; but difficulties have arisen, from an agreement made with the neighbouring inhabitants, that no part of the Prison shall front Redcross-street; but hopes are entertained that space may be obtained in another direction. The building is not fire-proof, and is otherwise faulty, in having the Gaoler's House placed at one extremity, from which the access to some parts of the prison is distant and inconvenient. The rooms, too, are many of them too large; a greater number of small rooms would tend not only to the comfort, but to the order also of those confined in them. Your Committee object, too, to the various subdivisions which are thought necessary. The separation, perhaps, of the freemen of London might be properly continued; but no reason exists for the distinction between the Giltspur-street and Poultry Debtors. It formerly depended upon choice, and now only on the alternate arrests; and it materially straitens the space, already too narrow for air and exercise.

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APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Committee on the State of the GAOLS, in the City of *London*, &c.

Jovis 31° *die Martij* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

Mr. *John Addison Newman*, called in, and Examined.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

YOU are the keeper of Newgate?—I am.

How long have you been so?—Ten years.

By whom appointed?—The Court of Aldermen.

With what salary?—450 *l.* per annum.

In addition to fees?—Yes.

Is that salary entirely for your own emolument, or do you pay your servants out of it?—I pay all the expenses of the prison: the salary does not pay much above a third part of it.

In addition to the salary, the fees produce a sufficient sum to pay all the expenses of the prison?—The fees and rents do.

And to furnish a reward and subsistence for yourself?—Yes, they do.

What is the average amount of the fees?—I am not prepared to answer that question exactly; but I suppose, after the payment of all the expenses, I may have, according to circumstances, from 600 *l.* a year to sometimes it has been 1,000 *l.* a year profit.

How is the Debtors side of Newgate divided?—Into two yards, one for men and the other for women. The men debtors court is 49 feet long by 31 feet wide; the female debtors is 49 feet long by 16 feet wide. It is one large yard, separated by a wall 15 feet high; and one part appropriated to the women, and the other to the men.

What number of wards are there to the men?—The men's debtors court leads to three wards, called the Cabin Side, each ward being 37 feet long by 14½ wide, and having four cabins in each, of about 7½ feet square, and capable of containing twenty-four persons, reckoning two to each cabin; also leading to two other wards, called the Master's Side, being each 23 feet long by 14½ wide, capable of containing about twenty persons; and to a day-room of the same dimensions, fitted up with benches and settles, after the manner of a tap-room in a public house; and also leading to eight other wards, called the Common Side; one of which is 36 feet, six others about 23 feet, and one other 18 feet in length; all of these are about 15 feet wide, and capable altogether of containing about ninety persons.

Do the partitions on the cabin side go up to the ceiling?—No.

Have the cabins windows?—No; they receive light and air from the tops of the partitions.

What fee is paid by prisoners to be on the master's side?—Three shillings at entrance.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

What do they pay for each bed?—I furnish no beds among the debtors at all; they hire them from each other, or bring them with them.

Are any beds found by the City?—No, not on the debtors side; they are all their own.

If any prisoner should come into the prison unable to pay for a bed, in what way must he pass his nights?—He would have rugs.

By whom are these rugs provided?—By the City.

Two rugs to each person?—Thereabouts; sometimes it happens more, according to the stock we have in hand.

Never less than two?—There have been instances of there being less, but that is very rarely the case; at the time the debtors side was very much crowded, they reduced it to less than two till we got a supply.

In what manner is the supply of rugs limited?—It is given on application of the Sheriffs to the Committee of the Corporation; the last supply was 800 rugs.

When was that last supply?—It was some time before Christmas last; it was between the Sheriffs coming into office and Christmas; but I cannot recollect the precise date.

Are the rugs given on application from the prisoners?—We put them into stock, and give them to the prisoners on their application.

You apply to the Sheriff?—Yes.

You apply as soon as the stock is out?—Before it is out.

Is there always in your possession a stock of rugs, to be delivered on the application of the prisoners?—Yes.

Has it ever occurred that there was not a sufficient stock?—It has occurred.

Frequently?—No, not frequently.

You have been immediately supplied?—There have been sometimes difficulties.

With whom?—Sometimes there has been a greater waste of rugs than there should have been; the prisoners have stolen them, or torn them up and made mops of them in the warm weather, and there has been a vast deal of trouble in getting more, and they have been obliged to wait till the regular supply came.

Then the supply is annual?—Yes.

And if, before the year was out, you made application for a fresh supply, you have had some difficulty in obtaining an additional quantity?—Yes, unless the weather was such as to require it, and then I have been immediately attended to. I never found any Sheriff but was willing to attend to it immediately.

Was there any difficulty, except where there has been abuse?—No, none at all.

Have you refused any of the prisoners, except those who have committed that abuse?—It is difficult, among such a number mixed together, to find who have committed the abuse.

Then if disorderly prisoners have wasted the rugs, orderly prisoners have been obliged to go without them?—The inconvenience may by possibility fall upon the orderly prisoners.

You speak now of the debtors?—Of all.

Have you reason to believe that the rugs are ever carried out by the friends of the prisoners?—We have caught women carrying them out under their clothes.

Have you ever had a supply before the year was out, and the period had arrived at which it would take place?—Yes, we have.

At what time of the year is the supply made?—The Sheriff comes in at Michaelmas; he makes his application, immediately they are ordered, and as soon as the contract can be completed they come in.

What is the latest period at which the supply has been made?—One year, we were out a good while, in consequence of their being coming from the country; the frost set in, and the barge was frozen in, and we could not get at them.

At what time of the year does the delivery usually take place?—Much about the latter end of October.

What number are then delivered; has it been the same number every year?—No; it has been according to the fulness of the gaol, or the want of them; they were wanted this year in a greater number, though there had not been waste, in consequence of the weather, and of the great number of prisoners; there have been seldom less than 600, and the last time there were 800 supplied.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Has any year ever passed without this regular supply?—I do not think any year has passed in my time, without that regular supply.

The poor debtors of course lie on the common side?—Yes, they do.

In the larger rooms?—Larger or smaller; there are three doors, one leading to that part called the Common Side, one called the Cabin Side, and one to the Master's Side; the lower room on the master's side is an accommodation room fitted up like a public house, and one of the prisoners keeps it.

In what do the master's side prisoners differ from those on the common side?—That they partake of none of the charities.

Have they no superior lodging?—No; except they find it themselves.

Are they in the same numbers put into the same size rooms?—Yes; I believe very nearly the same, it depends upon their own will in coming in; it may happen that more persons will prefer to go on the common side, and then that will be more full than the other.

Then what inducement is there to prisoners to pay three shillings to be on the master's side?—None, unless they are in that class that they like better, and can afford to live better; the class is of their own choosing.

Do they pay a weekly sum?—No; they pay garnish to each other when they come in.

What is the garnish?—The garnish to the common side is thirteen or fourteen shillings: the master's side charge something more; the cabin side is a guinea. I have not heard what they charge on the master's side; it is a subscription to their common stock.

This garnish is an arrangement entirely among the prisoners themselves?—Yes; entirely.

Is it fixed?—I believe it is.

Do they all pay it when they come in?—Yes, or they chalk them off, and will not let them come near the fire, and so on.

You do not interfere with it?—No.

What is collected from the garnish is generally spent for the prisoners?—That I do not know; I have no controul over it.

When the prison is too full, or indeed, at other times, those who have no beds lie on the floor, with two rugs?—Yes.

Have you not known sometimes, when they have with difficulty found room on the floor to sleep?—It has been so among the women, and among the men lately; we have been obliged to convert the chapel into a ward for them, for the sake of expansion; there was great danger of an infectious fever; the crowd came in so great, in expectation of Lord Redesdale's bill for insolvent debtors, and the operation was not so quick as they expected, so that there were 350 debtors at one time.

Did that ever happen prior to the expectation that was raised by Lord Redesdale's Bill?—No, not to so great an extent; it has been very great before. Upon the passing of every insolvent Act, they crowd in; but the evil has soon been got rid of.

But to a certain extent it has happened before?—Yes.

So that there has not been room for them to lie, without lying on the floor?—Hardly.

You say, that if they do not pay the garnish, they chalk them off, and will not let them come to the fire; is the fire found by the prisoners, or by the Public?—By the prisoners, aided by charitable donations.

There is no fire found by the City of London?—No, none found by the City for the debtors; what is supplied is a gift: there is a gift of coals.

That does not apply to the master's side?—No; there is nothing found on the master's side.

What is the quantity of coals given by the City of London?—To the felons side there are fifteen sacks every week; and during the late frost it has been doubled; thirty sacks every week.

On the common side is there any such established fund from charities, or other means, by which the debtors may be certain always of having fire?—The debtors have a charity fund, which at this time produces 6 *l.* a week.

That is on the common side?—Yes.

Do the cabin side prisoners partake of the charity?—No; the cabin side is all the master's side: they give it the name of Cabin Side, because there are cabins in the rooms.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Are all the legacies of every description put into one fund?—Yes.

And applied to the purposes of giving the prisoners provisions?—Yes; they give all the money to me, whatever they receive from every quarter, and it is calculated how much it will buy a week for a year to come; and they have so much a week laid out in absolute necessaries.

Do you apply the legacies to the purposes for which they are left, or do you lay them out in coals and candles?—I give them the money.

Taking care that the object of the donor is complied with?—It is always complied with. When the money is paid to the captain of the ward, they put it to the vote of the ward, what will be most useful to them.

What is the allowance of the City to the debtors?—Fourteen ounces of bread per day; that applies generally, and there is an allowance of eight stone of beef a week to the common side, that is 64 pounds.

Is that without reference to the number?—Yes; the same quantity always.

Upon the average, how much is it to each debtor per week?—There are about a hundred there now.

Supposing there were a very large number, or a very small one, would the quantity of meat given be the same?—Yes, if there were but half a dozen, it would be the same.

Is it given in the form of meat?—Meat without bone: the Sheriffs contract for the sending it.

Supposing there were not enough to eat it, what would become of it?—I have never seen an instance of that.

It is good meat?—Yes, it is.

As good meat as you would have for your own family?—I would not wish to have finer; it is very fine beef.

Has it not happened, that there have been so many debtors on the common side of Newgate, that this allowance of fourteen ounces of bread a day, and eight stone of beef a week, was not sufficient?—It has always been a bare allowance, were it not for the support of their friends.

Were it not for the assistance of their friends and the charities, would they be able to subsist?—They would not absolutely starve; but it would be a very poor subsistence.

Would it be sufficient without the assistance of their friends, depending only upon that and the charities?—I do not think it would; the charities are eaten up by coals and lights, and different things.

Is there light in the sleeping rooms?—Yes; they live in fact in the same room as they sleep.

There is no day-room?—No; except the accommodation room.

What is the height of the ceilings?—They are very high; I think they are not less than sixteen feet.

Do any of the prisoners among the debtors work?—Yes; in one room called the Long Ward they work; there are shoemakers, watchmakers, cabinetmakers, and other trades.

Is that on the common side or the master's side?—The common side.

Is the garnish money taken in the working room different from that taken in the other rooms?—I believe not.

Do they sleep in the working room?—Yes.

What is the garnish money applied to?—To keeping up their common fire, coals and candles, and salt and pepper, and so on.

Are not the charities also applied to coals and candles?—Yes; they are.

How many are there at present in this common working room?—I believe there are about sixteen or seventeen.

Would it hold more?—It has had thirty in it or thirty-five at one time; but that is too many.

Have the debtors always the choice of the ward in which they shall be?—No; they have the choice of which department they will go to; whether the master's side, the cabin side, or the common side.

Is it not the custom, when the gaol is full, for one debtor to let out his room, if he is better lodged than another?—They may do that on the cabin side; but they cannot on the other side.

Have the debtors any rules peculiar to themselves?—There are a set of rules approved by the Judges.

When the gaol is what you call properly filled, and more persons are sent in,

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are you in the habit of remonstrating upon that subject?—No; remonstrance is of no use.

Supposing the gaol is sufficiently filled for the convenience and comfort of the prisoners, and more are sent, what steps do you take under those circumstances?—There is no step which can be taken. I complain every time of the grievance.

Supposing the gaol to be crowded, and more prisoners were sent in, should you feel yourself bound to receive them, without making any remonstrance in any quarter?—I should apply to the Court of Aldermen.

Has that circumstance arisen?—It arose lately with the debtors; and the consequence was, the opening of the chapel to expand.

Was that by an order from the court?—It was an application by the Sheriffs to the committee I have been speaking of, who ordered it to be fitted up for that purpose.

There was no other way of accommodating them?—No, there was not.

In 1809 there were 486 prisoners; did you then make any application to the Court of Sheriffs?—To the Sheriffs, who applied to the Secretary of State for the time being for the removal of such convicts as might be removed. Whenever the criminal side has been over crowded, it has been by the remaining of convicts.

How many felons now in Newgate are under sentence of transportation?—There are a great many now: there are upwards of one hundred men.

In 1811 there were 233 debtors and 396 felons; did you then make any application to the Sheriffs?—I have no doubt I did, but I cannot speak to the particular time.

Were you aware of the Act of 31 Geo. III. by which gaolers are directed to report the insufficiency of gaols every quarter sessions till remedied?—These reports are made continually. The grand juries visit the gaols; and there are very seldom two sessions go by without a grand jury attending.

Have these reports been continually made ever since you have known the prison?—They have.

Reports of the insufficiency of the prison?—Yes.

These reports of the grand jury are in Mr. Shelton's office?—Yes, whenever they have made a formal report; but they very seldom have made that formal report.

Are the wives and children of prisoners admitted to them?—Yes, in the daytime.

No wife is allowed to remain there during the night?—It is contrary to the rule, but they do get in sometimes.

Are their children allowed to remain with them?—They should not; but the women, when they get their children in, sometimes will not part with them; and it is a difficult thing to get them out again.

What number of children have you known to sleep in the prison on the debtors side?—Two or three.

For what number of hours are the wives and friends of debtors admitted?—They are admitted about nine in the morning, and continue coming and going till nine at night.

In summer and winter?—Yes.

At the hour of leaving the prison, what is the greatest number of men and women who have quitted it?—About two hundred visitors have gone out of the debtors side at one time.

Under what regulations is liquor admitted?—Spirituous liquors not at all; beer or wine not more than one quart to one person at one time; no person to have possession of more than a quart of beer or ale, or a bottle of wine, at one time.

Do you mean one day or one hour?—One time means a reasonable time; if they came for one pot and then immediately for another, it would not be granted; if they came two or three times in a day they would have it.

May they have wine two or three times in one day?—Yes.

Then one debtor might have two or three bottles of wine in a day?—Yes, if he paid for it.

Does it happen that they sell their allowances one to another, at different times, and by that means a debtor gets a great deal more than his allowance at a particular time?—No; I do not know that it does.

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Have you any account taken of the quantity of liquors admitted into prison in the course of a day?—No.

Are there any Visiting Justices?—Yes.

How frequently do they come to the prison?—Very frequently; the whole Court of Aldermen are visiting justices, and they are frequently coming for one purpose or another. Mr. Alderman Christopher Smith has been there three times this week.

Is any memorandum made of their visits?—No.

Do they ever enter observations in any book?—No.

When was the last visit made before this last week?—Continually; some gentlemen or other of the Court of Aldermen are continually coming, and the Sheriffs.

Is any time fixed for their coming?—No, they come at all times, whether I am at home or out.

Previously to three months back did they visit you?—Yes, always.

You might say weekly?—Yes, I may say daily; the Sheriffs have been so kind as to manage the place for me while I have been out of town the last week.

Does the surgeon of Newgate keep a book?—No; he makes a return every time there is a Court of Aldermen, and every day during the sessions at the Old Bailey.

Is there an Infirmary on the debtors side?—Yes, a small one.

How many will it hold?—About five or six people.

Is there a separate infirmary for men and women?—No, there is no infirmary for female debtors.

What do you do, supposing the infirmary is full; that there are five or six in it, and that there are twenty ill?—We might be obliged to empty a ward, and convert it into an infirmary, by placing the inmates in other wards.

Has that ever happened?—It was very near happening, but we opened the chapel.

It has never happened?—No.

There is no infirmary for the women debtors?—If there was an infectious fever I should remove them to the felons infirmary; but it has not happened.

How often does the surgeon visit the gaol?—Every day, sometimes twice.

Every debtor pays on his discharge 6 *s.* 10 *d.*?—Six shillings and tenpence to the keeper, and 2 *s.* to the turnkeys.

On the common side as well as the master's side?—Yes.

Are you ever obliged to detain them to compel them to pay their fees?—I think I am authorized to do it, but I never had occasion to do it but once, and then it was at the man's request; he wished to be detained for his fees, that he might be discharged under the Insolvent Act, and he was discharged, that being his only debt.

If you let them out without paying their fees, you lose the money?—Yes.

Has that ever happened?—It very seldom happens; for if they cannot pay it themselves, there are so many charitable donations, that it is paid out of them.

Is the table of fees approved by the Court of Aldermen?—Yes.

And by a Judge's order?—The table of fees does not, I believe, require the approbation of the Judges; only the rules and orders.

How are the fees paid for those discharged under the Insolvent Act?—In the same way as the others.

They pay the fees themselves?—Yes; or others for them.

The fees have not been altered since the year 1729?—No.

In addition to those fees, is a fee paid to the Middlesex sheriff?—Yes, and to the London sheriff too; to the Sheriff of the city or county, as the case may be; the fee to the sheriff of Middlesex is 4 *s.* 6 *d.* for each debtor for the liberate, if on one action, and 2 *s.* 6 *d.* more on every other action.

Who takes that?—Messrs. Burchells & Co.; and, if it is a London debtor, Mr. Collingridge; it is more in London; there are three offices to pay at.

What is the amount in London?—We have so seldom a London debtor that I hardly know what is the amount; there is a discharge at the Secondaries office, and at each of the compters.

You do not know the total amount of the expense for a discharge?—A discharge, in London, comes to nearly a guinea, it may be more or less.

A guinea, if there is only one action?—I think it is.

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If there are other actions, it amounts to a much greater sum?—Yes, I believe so.

Have you frequently known debtors detained from not being able to pay this fee?—Yes, frequently,

For any length of time?—No, I never detained a prisoner more than a day or two.

You speak of your own fee?—Yes; as to the Sheriff's fee they must bring their discharge; I do not know how long they have been in obtaining that.

You do not know whether those fees are rigorously levied?—I do not believe they are; indeed I know they are very often given up.

If debtors are refractory, in what mode do you punish them?—Remove them to the felons side, or put them into what is called the Strong Room, the lower room on the debtors side.

Do you ever remove them to the felons side?—Yes.

Do you ever do that by virtue of your own authority, or by the order of the magistrate?—It is by the rules of the prison; I have done it by my own authority.

What do you mean by removing them to the felons side?—To a cell on the felons side.

They have no communication then with the felons?—They can hear them, but do not mix with them.

In case you have occasion to remove them to the felons side by your own authority, do you report that to anybody?—No, I make a memorandum of it, but do not report it.

Do the Aldermen give you an order in writing, or a verbal order, in case of your reporting to them?—A verbal order.

What length of time do you confine them?—The length of time required is, till they shall make satisfaction; unless sooner removed by appeal to the sheriffs or keeper.

How long have you confined any one?—Three days; I do not remember having confined any one longer.

During that time they have full allowance of provisions?—Yes; the rule requires, that if they cannot support themselves, they shall have sixpence a day out of the common stock.

What do you mean when you say until they shall make satisfaction?—That the person whom they have offended shall be appeased; if one debtor strikes another, the debtor that has been ill used shall consent to his coming back again; but if he is obstinate and will not accept a reasonable apology, then the Sheriff will interfere and remove the man without.

And the same if he shall be insolent to any one of the keepers of the prison?—Yes; but I have never punished any one for being insolent to me, or to any one of my men.

Does that ever occur?—I have never been ill treated by any one of them yet.

Nor your men?—No; there have been little disputes sometimes, but no ill usage.

Have the debtors a separate Chapel?—No; there is a separate gallery, it is one chapel.

Is the chapel sufficiently large for the whole of the prisoners?—No; it will not hold more than one third.

Are the debtors and felons in view of each other?—Yes; they can all see each other.

The attendance is voluntary?—Yes.

Women and men are separate?—Yes, by galleries, not otherwise.

Is there any fund for clothing poor debtors?—The Court of Aldermen have done it whenever there have been any very poor, but there is a new fund called the Sheriff's Fund, which has supplied it in a great measure lately.

That is a charity?—It is; but I have been frequently in the habit of clothing, by order of the Court of Aldermen. The clothing female convicts in the course of the last 12 months, has cost the City of London about 300 *l.*

In what manner do the debtors oblige each other to pay garnish?—By chalking them from the fire; if a man does not pay his garnish they make him wash and swab the ward.

In what manner do they compel a person to do it?—If he refuses it they will not let him come near the fire to warm himself.

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The coals for the common side are found by charities?—Yes, something towards them.

And on the master's side by contributions among themselves?—Yes, and this garnish is the first payment of that contribution.

Then they exclude them from the fire also, on the common side, if they have not paid garnish?—Yes, they do.

Does this exclusion happen for a considerable time as to any person?—Yes, it does.

During that time they have not had the means of cooking their victuals.—No.

Do they ever take their clothes from them?—Not on the debtors side; on the felons side they have.

Then if a man does not pay garnish he is deprived of the benefit of some of the charities?—Yes.

To what extent?—They cannot take his bread from him.

The allowance is about 6 *l.* a week for the debtors.—Yes.

Supposing a man not to have paid his garnish money, would he be deprived of all benefit from this 6 *l.* a week given in charity?—Yes, they would not give him any part of it.

At all events, whether applied to fuel or potatoes, or whatever it might be, he would get no share of it?—No.

Would he be deprived of any thing which you distributed in money?—Yes, he would.

In what manner do you give it?—There is a captain in each room who receives it from the steward of the prison, the steward of the prison shews me that he has paid; and he is reimbursed.

By whom is that captain appointed?—When there is a vacancy of a steward the keeper nominates three persons belonging to that ward or room, one of whom they must choose as their steward.

You speak of the application of that fund, which you say is about 6 *l.* a week?—Yes.

What benefit has that captain or steward over the rest?—He has double allowance of bread; and it is his duty to keep the peace of the ward.

He has twenty-eight ounces of bread instead of fourteen?—Yes.

And the whole of the share of the eight stone of beef for that ward is given into the hands of that captain?—The eight stone is divided under the direction of the steward of the prison, assisted by three persons who are auditors, chosen by the debtors themselves, without the interference of anybody, to be their auditors and guardians of their charities.

Do they distribute to the prisoners individually, or to the rooms?—To the rooms, and the steward of the room subdivides.

By the rules relating to garnish money, would a person who had not paid his garnish money be deprived of his share of the meat?—No, I think he could not be deprived of his share of the meat.

You stated, that a person who had not paid garnish, did not receive any benefit whatever from the fire?—No.

Then how does he cook his provisions?—He must get those that do not want cooking.

He must have raw provisions?—He must be obliged to sell it; but these things have so generally found their level among them, that I never had a complaint of that nature; no man has said to me, there is raw meat, I cannot cook.

You never had to interfere for a man who was called upon to pay his garnish?—Yes, but not to that extent.

You have said, that they very seldom complain to you upon those occasions?—Very seldom.

Do you attribute that to their not being often oppressed by each other, or to any indisposition of the prisoners to complain?—I think there is no danger of that sort; they are very ready to complain when they are injured.

Have you any regulations to enforce cleanliness among them?—No, the only way is to threaten to shut the doors, and shut out all visitors.

Are mops and brooms furnished by the City?—The debtors find their own mops and brooms; there is an occasional gift to them sometimes.

Have you any means of enforcing cleanliness in the individual?—No, I do not know how to do it.

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So that if one man is dirty, the whole of the ward to which he belongs may be punished?—There is a vast deal of difficulty in that, sometimes the debtors themselves, if a man is so filthy and lousy, for that is the chief complaint, if it is from his own want of cleanliness, will take his clothes from him, and put them under the pump, and let him be naked.

How far do you allow them to go in punishing each other?—Not at all; but in the case of lousiness, I should not find fault with their taking the man's clothes from him and wetting them, if he would not keep himself clean; I should not interfere in it.

How are the rooms cleaned?—By the prisoners in rotation.

If any of the prisoners whose turn it was, neglected it, should you enforce it?—They would enforce it; they would complain.

Is the rotation regularly kept up?—I believe it is; the senior members very seldom have occasion to do it, the juniors who come in do it, and then there are defaulters.

Do you regulate that?—No; they do that among themselves.

Supposing you saw it was not cleaned, should you interfere?—I should tell them of it.

Are they pretty careful themselves to have them cleaned?—Yes, they are; the floors never look clean, they are oak caulked with pitch, and the ceilings are smoked; the walls and ceilings are done once a year with hot lime, never with whiting.

These regulations apply to the common side, as well as the master's side?—Yes; in general they are kept very sweet.

Do the chimnies all smoke?—Yes, every one of them.

Have no means been taken to remedy them?—Yes, frequently.

And they have not been successful?—No, they have all been raised to mend them.

Do they smoke to a great degree?—No, only when the wind is at certain points; sometimes they are for a week together without smoking.

Is there not an easy mode of preventing it?—No; the only means when they begin to smoke a good deal, is to set the chimnies on fire, and there is a great deal of trouble in that.

How often are they swept?—About once in six weeks; but they cannot sweep them quite to the top, because there is an iron grating to prevent escape, and the soot will lodge above that.

If a debtor dies in prison, what becomes of his effects?—His relatives, whoever belonged to him, take them.

At whose expense is his body buried?—At the expense of his friends.

If he happens to have no friends, what would be done?—I should bury him, and charge it to the City.

There being no infirmary for female debtors, are they removed previous to their death, or do they die in their common room?—If there was an infectious fever, they would be removed to the female felons infirmary; if there was consumption, or any thing of that sort, they would be better taken care of in their own room.

If a woman not ill of an infectious complaint were to die, she would die among the other women?—Yes, but I do not remember one to have died among the women.

Has a man died in his room?—Yes, a man would now die in the infirmary; but there has an instance happened of a death among the others; there are very few deaths in Newgate.

In case of a female being brought to bed, in what room must she be delivered?—In the case of debtors, in the same room with the others, and she would be better taken care of there.

Has that ever happened?—No, I do not remember a female debtor lying-in there; female criminals very frequently have.

Does the chaplain frequently visit the debtors?—I believe so.

He goes amongst them and talks to them?—I believe so.

Has he a room in which he can confer with them individually?—Only the vestry; I do not remember his having called any of the debtors out into the vestry.

If they are sick, does he attend them?—He should attend them, and did, till

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he was ill, and another gentleman attended for him. Doctor Ford was himself ill when a debtor was sick, and we sent to Mr. Poynder the late undersheriff, who provided a clergyman.

Do many of the debtors read much?—I believe they do.

They are not interrupted by the other debtors?—I do not know indeed, as to that, it depends upon what temper they are in; I do not suppose they will wilfully interrupt each other; there is a bible in each room, and they are frequently one or other at it.

A large bible, chained to the desk?—Yes.

It is found by the City?—Yes.

Have you understood that the City of London is now building a distinct prison for the reception of debtors, for the purpose of relieving Newgate and other City prisons of all their debtors?—Yes.

And that that new prison is now in great forwardness?—Yes.

When is it expected to be completed?—It is supposed, that if no accident happens to prevent its completion, it will not be above a twelvemonth longer; it has been begun nearly a twelvemonth; it is roofed in.

Would the debtors side of the prison be easily converted into a place for keeping felons?—I think it would be easily converted into a place for convicts under sentence; it would hardly be strong enough in its present state; and it would allow, when the alteration took place, of separation for the classification of prisoners; it would do for convicts under imprisonment, for felony, or sentence of transportation.

Into what number of yards is the criminal part divided?—Six.

Name them?—The press yard or yard for capital convicts, which is 85 feet long by 20 at one end, and 15 at the other end; the chapel yard, 43 feet by 25; the middle yard, 50 by 25; the master's side yard, 50 by 25; the state side, 40 feet by 30; the women felons have two court yards laid into one, the one is 40 feet and the other 20 feet long, and they are both about ten feet wide.

They are converted into one?—Yes, there is a turn round a corner; they also have the use of the passage to the Sessions House, when it is fine weather, for two or three hours in a day.

In what manner are the rooms connected with the press yard, divided?—Into cells; there is a day room, an infirmary, and fifteen cells.

What description of prisoners are confined there?—Persons under sentence of death.

And no others?—No others.

Where do you confine the King's witnesses?—Sometimes in the common room, among the capital convicts; sometimes along with some of the gatesmen, the men in one of the watch rooms.

What are the gatesmen?—Mostly prisoners.

What is their duty?—The man who has the watch room adjoining the press-yard is not a prisoner, he is one of my men; the other men, who take care of the inside gates, are mostly prisoners.

Is it necessary to confine the King's witnesses separately, to protect them from the other prisoners?—Yes, mostly so; we always make a point of separating them, and also any prisoners who have been officers of justice; if they come into prison by any fault, it is necessary to keep them from others.

In what manner are the cells fitted up?—They are oak planks studded with nails; the floor has a barrack upon it, an inclined plane.

Is bedding allowed there?—No, there is no allowance for bedding, any more than rugs.

Is straw allowed?—No; any thing but straw, straw would not be safe.

Would straw put into coarse canvass bags be safe?—No; if they did not set the place on fire, they might smother themselves by that; one man wilfully set his bedding and his clothes on fire, and it was so suffocating, I was obliged to creep on my hands and knees to be under the smoke, and to hold my breath when I came to the place to get the door open.

Is Clothing ever supplied to the prisoners?—When they are very destitute indeed, they are supplied by the Sheriffs fund, or court of Aldermen.

For what number of hours are they locked up in the cells?—It should be from two in the afternoon, till nine the next morning.

One in each cell?—Two in each cell principally.

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What is the reason of shutting them up from two in the afternoon till nine in the morning—I do not know, except that it has always been so.

In summer and winter?—Yes.

What is in point of fact the time?—We let them remain, in point of fact, till four o'clock in the afternoon.

In summer and winter?—Yes; except Sundays, when they are locked up at two.

They are frequently alone, and sometimes two together?—Always two, if we can, unless they desire to be alone.

Is it entirely in your own discretion what two persons shall be confined together in the same cell?—Yes.

Are more than two ever confined together?—Yes; when the place is full. There are fifteen cells, and till the report before the last we were obliged to put three into a cell.

What is the size of the cells?—About nine feet long by seven wide.

How high?—The crown of the arch about ten or eleven feet high.

And only one bedstead in it?—Only one barrack.

Which would hardly hold two persons?—Two may lie in it.

What set of rugs is allowed for each cell?—Two rugs for each prisoner. It is very seldom that they require that, for they have beds of their own, or are furnished with them by their friends, or are master-side prisoners; therefore it is very seldom that they are reduced to the rugs.

Are those you now speak of capital convicts?—I speak now of capital convicts only.

Before the last Report, how many condemned prisoners were in Newgate?—Fifty.

Are those fifteen cells the only ones in which they were confined?—Yes.

Then there were more than three in a cell?—There were some women also, and they were not put in those cells.

Had you never more than three in a cell?—No; when once there were 100 under sentence of death, we were obliged to strengthen other rooms in different parts of the prison, and to put those that were the slightest cases and that we could trust the best, into those rooms.

Were those fifty condemned prisoners, whom you have just referred to, those who were condemned at more sessions than one?—Yes; there was one of as long standing as May 1812.

How long time had elapsed since a report had been made?—That I cannot tell; there had been several reports, and some persons left out. The last report included the remainder of three sessions, and two individuals of former sessions. There were two reports within a month of each other; the first report respited all the persons under sentence of death, except nine; the second Report respited two, and left seven for execution.

How many in point of fact are now in Newgate, under sentence of death?—Seven for execution.

The respites are transferred?—Yes; they are now among the class of transports.

In what year were there a hundred?—When His Majesty was ill, sometime before his recovery, the number had amounted up to just 100; it did not remain so long.

Are candles allowed to the condemned prisoners?—They may have candles, if they purchase them; there is no allowance; the use of them is allowed.

What allowance of Food have they?—To all the prisoners on the felons side there are ten ounces of bread per day. To the common side prisoners 18 stone of beef per week, and an additional allowance from the Sheriffs fund of one pound each person every Saturday; the 18 stone is divided among them generally, whether the number is greater or smaller, and the one pound delivered by tale according to the number.

Is this meat distributed to the condemned prisoners also?—Yes, it is. There is also 24 pound of mutton per week for the felons infirmaries, the men's and women's; then to the poor in lieu of the other four ounces of bread the debtors have daily, they have rice, potatoes, fish, and coals to cook it.

That is to each person to the amount of the four additional ounces of bread given

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given to the debtors?--Yes; they have the value of the additional four in substitutes.

The whole of this allowance you have mentioned, is made by the Corporation of the City of London?—Yes; and the Sheriffs fund.

What do you mean by the poor felons?—Those not on the master's side or the state side, the common side; those on the master's side or the state side pay fees for being there.

Is any fuel allowed to the condemned prisoners?—Yes; they are supplied in their day-room, and have their share of the coals brought weekly, or twice a week since the weather has been bad; they have no fires in their cells.

How far is that fuel sufficient to warm the rooms and to cook the victuals, without assistance of any charities?—In the hard weather, when they had it twice a week, it answered the purpose without any assistance.

In common winters are the fifteen sacks sufficient?—No, they are not always sufficient.

Thirty are?—Yes; I have not heard that any of them have had occasion to buy during the hard winter.

To each cell a prayer book and a bible are supplied?—Yes; there are a quantity of prayer books and bibles kept in a place adjoining the press yard, which they take up of a night.

Are they supplied by the City or the Bible Societies?—By the City, part; and part by the Bible Societies.

Do you take care to put in a cell one who can read with one who cannot?—I have endeavoured to do so; I have endeavoured to put three together in that way, that one may read to those who cannot, or sometimes according to their persuasions, there may be a Roman Catholic, or a Dissenter, or of some other religious persuasion; we consult their own feelings in a measure.

Do they read a great deal?—The capital convicts generally a great deal.

Is that the way in which they pass their time?—Before the report is made, and a day fixed for an execution, the people generally forget their troubles, and they are pretty much the same as those in the other yards, playing at ball or swearing; and they seem to have no idea of their situation

Are they allowed to send for liquor?—Allowable liquor, beer and wine.

In the same proportion as the debtors?—Yes; they should have no more than one quart at a time.

A man may send for a quart at ten in the morning, and another at two o'clock?—Yes; but if a man was in the habit of sending for too much and should be drunk, it would soon be found out.

Does the Chaplain visit that particular part of the prison?—Yes; more than any other part of the prison.

Do they attend chapel?—Yes, they should do, but there were but three came to chapel last Sunday.

Do they read much after sentence?—Yes; and they are a good deal visited by serious persons, clergymen and others.

Persons who are not clergymen visit them?—Yes.

Is a Roman Catholic appointed to the prison?—Yes.

And paid by the City?—He is remunerated, but not by way of salary.

After a report is made, have they the same permission to buy wine and beer as before?—Yes; with one exception, that of murder.

They are not allowed to purchase liquor then?—No; they are not seen by any body; they are kept in the condemned cell.

Unless any person coming to pray with them?—Yes; nobody would be admitted but by order of the Sheriff, unless it were the Ordinary of Newgate, or a Roman Catholic priest.

An order for the admission of a person, would be given immediately in a proper case?—Certainly.

What is the difference of allowance in case of murder?—They have nothing but bread and water.

That is prescribed by act of parliament?—Yes, it is.

Is it rigidly adhered to?—It has been lately.

They are not even allowed tea?—No, they are not.

Is there any regulation with respect to the admission of females or children into the felons side?—No; at all proper hours of the day they may be admitted.

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What difficulties exist in getting them out of the gaol?—In coming out again the women are permitted to depart once in every hour.

What difficulties have you found in their coming out of the gaol, so as to warrant their remaining all night?—They have hid themselves; they cannot do that frequently, but they have done it occasionally; when children go in to see them, if they are their own children, they are distressed at parting with them, and sometimes they are destitute.

Do you admit women and children to visit the condemned prisoners?—Yes.

They never stay with them at night?—No, never.

All persons applying to visit the condemed prisoners are allowed to go without special order?—Yes.

The yard is not opened to those who are condemned for murder?—No; they are kept in the cells from the time of sentence to the time of execution.

From the Friday to the Monday?—Yes.

Where two persons are concerned in the same murder, and condemned, are they shut up together?—Yes, it would be so.

If they were not for the same murder, they would not be shut up together?—Yes, they would be, unless they differed from each other in religious opinion.

You do not shut up together one man who is condemned for murder, and another for forgery?—No; unless there is reason to apprehend one of them would make away with himself and another is shut up with him to prevent it.

Do you search whether persons have any instrument about them, with which they may destroy themselves?—Yes; but notwithstanding the strictest search, they can conceal things sometimes.

You do not let them have a knife about them?—No; they have it in the day-time to eat their dinner with, but we take it away at night.

They have it in the cell?—Yes.

What is the number of wards attached to the chapel-yard?—Five.

For what description of prisoners?—Prisoners committed for trial, except one of the wards which is a double one, for prisoners convicted of misdemeanors.

How long has that been the case?—Very soon after my last examination before the Committee on Penitentiary Houses; it seemed to me desirable to make a classification as soon as possible, and I endeavoured to do it immediately; and the Aldermen were kind enough to permit the surveyor to make alterations in the gaol, which assisted me in the doing it.

No convict of any description is confined in this yard?—Only those convicted of misdemeanors, and those untried; there is not room for a more complete separation, yet there will be soon.

Are no felon convicts among them?—No.

Have persons sentenced for misdemeanors, and those not yet tried, communication in the yard?—They can see each other, and talk together.

What is the size of these rooms?—They are all of them about fifteen feet wide; one of them is thirty-eight feet long, four others twenty feet long, and one fifteen feet square.

How many prisoners are lodged in the room thirty-eight feet long?—That depends, in some measure, upon the number in the prison.

What number will they conveniently hold?—The long room will conveniently hold about four-and-twenty, and the other rooms about 12 a-piece comfortably enough, and the small room six.

Allowing how much room to each person?—I think the rooms will hold that number without being crowded.

That is allowing a foot and a half in width, to each person?—Yes.

What is the greatest number you have ever known confined in one of these rooms?—I do not remember any very great number of persons for trial in them, but when we have been over crowded with convicts, there have been as many as forty in these large rooms.

They have then lain on each side of the room?—Yes, some on each side.

Are all the prisoners for trial in this yard?—All the prisoners for trial are in this chapel-yard, except those who chuse to go on the master's side, and the state side.

How many have you in the largest room now?—I believe there are fifteen or sixteen in the large room now, from the appearance of them.

Is the gaol now crowded?—No, it is pretty well now.

Are

Are all the prisoners committed for misdemeanors in the same yard, except those on the master's side and the state side?—Yes.

What do you mean by a barrack, a sort of bed place?—It is an inclined plane.

Is it raised above the floor?—Yes; at the feet it is raised about six inches, and it runs up gradually.

It is hollowed out a little?—Yes, a little matter, and there is a wooden pillow at the top.

No bedding is allowed?—No.

Are they allowed to bring in bedding?—Yes; there are very few without bedding of some sort or other.

Have the felons any custom amongst themselves answering to the garnish of the debtors?—Yes, they have.

What is the garniſh to this room?—I think it is 4*s.* 6*d.* they are arbitrary; but it was agreed a little while ago it should be only 4*s.* 6*d.*

How is it extorted?—If the persons do not pay it, they ill treat them at night, or take their clothes away; I have had a great deal of trouble in making them restore them at times.

In the other rooms besides these large rooms, is room allowed to each prisoner in the same proportion?—Yes, at present there is about that proportion all the way through.

They have the same food, clothing, and allowances, as the condemned?—Yes.

Have they any list of rules and regulations for their government?—None is made immediately for the criminals.

Except the mere fact of separation, you make no difference between them?—No.

Is no distinction made of age here, or in any other part of the prison; no distinction between the young, the middle aged, and the old?—No, there is not space for that; I have got all the boys together in a room, but it is very inconvenient; there is no proper yard for them only a passage, and if they are not removed soon, I am afraid they will become ill.

Are those in this yard all ironed?—Most of them; I put irons on every one when they come.

As well those charged with misdemeanors as other crimes?—No; only those charged with felony.

What is the weight of the irons?—They weigh about three pounds, I believe.

You say, that you put irons on all when they come in; when do you take them off?—Never, till they are discharged; unless they have a sore leg, or unless they behave well, and we know them well enough to suffer them to be without.

You said they were most of them ironed; for what reason are any of them not ironed?—Some, because they are charged only with misdemeanors; some, because they have bad or tender legs; some, because they have been a good while and are known; and some, because they are in some little office, captain of their ward or assisting at the gate, or there is some reason that we have to rely upon them.

If a prisoner brought down for trial, demands to have his irons taken off, are they taken off immediately?—Yes, immediately.

Is there the same practice of appointing a captain to each ward here, as on the debtors side?—Yes.

By whom is he chosen?—By the keeper entirely on the felons side.

You do not give three names here?—No; my men appoint them, or recommend to me whom to appoint.

The captains of those wards have charities paid into their hands?—No charity comes in money to this side, but it comes in kind.

Is that distributed by them?—No; by my men.

The payment of garnish has no effect upon that?—No.

Is this not one of the ways of compelling the prisoners to pay garnish in this yard?—No; they do it by shutting them out from the fire, and playing them tricks.

There is no exclusion from food or allowance?—No.

Do

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Do those committed for misdemeanors keep separate from those committed for felonies?—Most generally; it depends upon what they are.

What are the locking-up hours in this part of the prison?—In the chapel-yard we begin to lock up about seven o'clock in the evening.

In winter and summer?—In winter we shut them up from the yard at dusk, and then turn out the strangers about half after seven, and they are locked up for the night at that time.

In summer at what time?—The hour for locking up is the same; the general locking up is half after seven.

The windows are not glazed?—They are not; at least in very few of the felons wards.

Describe the windows they have.—They have wooden frames, covered with oiled paper, that open inwards. They used to have glass, but it was always broken to pieces.

Was it broken wantonly?—Yes.

At what time do you let them out in the morning?—At eight o'clock.

Is not the attempt to commit the most abominable crimes only a misdemeanor?—Yes.

Are persons charged with such attempts put among the felons, or the others charged with misdemeanors?—Those for misdemeanors.

Has it ever happened that persons of these two descriptions have been put together?—On the common side it has frequently.

Not on the master's side?—Yes; without forming a class for those sort of people, it would be impossible to prevent it.

A person committed for a simple assault, which is a misdemeanor, would be put with a person confined for an attempt at the most abominable crimes?—Yes; but it is a very rare thing to have a person in Newgate for an assault; it must be a very aggravated assault. There are other prisons for those charged with assaults; the misdemeanors with us are generally frauds, and those description of offenders who have been just referred to.

Is there any ventilation, besides the air that comes in at the windows?—There are apertures in the walls of the room.

They are always open?—Yes, they are; they do not run in a straight line, so that they let in air without being seen through.

Do the prisoners ever suffer from cold at night?—They very seldom complain of it, unless they have broken the windows.

Does the rain ever beat in?—The rain has got in very much through the roof during the last winter.

Have you made complaints of that?—Yes; I made complaint immediately that it took place.

Was it repaired as soon as it could be?—It was, as far as it could be; there are workmen continually upon it; it has never been without, except when the snow lay so heavily that they could not do any thing; they were obliged to discontinue for a short time.

Veneris, 1° *die Aprilis* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

Mr. *John Addison Newman*, again called in, and Examined.

DESCRIBE the Middle Yard, and the wards connected with it?—It is nearly 50 feet long and 25 feet wide; the wards are 15 feet wide and 38 long.

How many wards are there?—Now four. There were five; but one has been taken out, and a communication made with the ward of the chapel-yard, for the better separation of tried, from untried prisoners.

Then the prisoners who used to be confined in one of these five wards, now belong to the chapel-yard?—Yes.

How many persons are they capable of holding each?—I suppose about 24; allowing a foot and a half for each. Twenty-four does not over crowd them at all.

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What is the greatest number you remember to have been confined in one of them?—About forty.

They must, in that case, have covered the whole floor?—No; twenty-four can lie on the barrack bedsteads; the rest must lie on the floor. Nineteen inches will give room for a common-sized man to turn in.

Are they allowed to have beds?—They may have beds, but there are no bedsteads; the beds may lie upon the floor.

What is the number you now have in this yard?—In the middle yard 83; in the bottom, 14; in the room above the bottom ward, 21; in the room opposite to that, 21; and in the room above that, 27.

For what reason have you put 27 into one room, and only 14 into another?—It has so happened, from persons having been removed out of one ward more than another, according to their removal for transportation; those who have been left have liked their situations, and have left the vacancies in other rooms for fresh comers.

Of what description of persons are they?—Under sentence of transportation, or imprisonment for felony.

Of all ages?—Of all ages.

What is the age of the youngest person you have in this yard?—I suppose the youngest there may be about 18 or 19.

Have you frequently any much younger?—Yes; there are some nine years old sometimes; but they are in a room by themselves; I hope to get them removed. I have an order in my pocket for the removal of 52, who are under sentence of transportation, among whom are seven or eight children; one nine years old, and others not above twelve or thirteen.

Are they for the hulks, or for transportation?—They are for transportation; they go to the hulks in the first instance.

The children of nine years old?—Yes; at the hulks, they have the establishment of a school for them; at Woolwich, a man of the name of Andrews is the schoolmaster; and I saw him, when I was there, teaching them.

Is this the only part of the prison in which you confine transports?—Yes; the only place on the common side of the prison.

What is the longest time you have had any prisoner confined for transportation?—Individuals have remained a long time; but generally speaking, the men have seldom remained longer than half a year, or sometimes a twelvemonth; any who remain longer are under peculiar circumstances: there is one who has been there nearly seven years, and will be discharged very soon, from the time of his sentence expiring; he was a boy at the time of his trial; he had borne a very good character; he had great interest made for him; it was thought right not to pardon him, because he was convicted of a capital offence, but he was passed over from time to time.

Is any employment given to the convicts that are for transportation, during the time they remain?—No; there is no employment provided for them in Newgate; it has been attempted several times, but without success.

Have you employed, in any confidential situation, the person who has remained for seven years?—Yes, I have.

In what situation?—To attend the yard in the night-time after the place was shut up, and serve the people with any articles of provision or beer that may be necessary, when they cannot come for it themselves.

Does he wear irons?—No.

Does he receive wages for the work he does in the prison?—No.

Do you find any alteration in his character since he has been in prison?—He has always behaved well ever since he has been there. There are two or three very trusty men that I could not very well do without, and I petitioned for them that they may remain there for their usefulness, rather than that they should be sent on board the hulks.

Does it often happen that the prison is much crowded, from persons sentenced to transportation not being sent?—It has frequently been so.

What number of persons transportable have you had in your custody, upon an average for the last three or four years?—There have been in custody at one time upwards of two hundred in the course of the last three or four years.

Are the allowance of food and the other regulations in this middle yard the same as in the chapel-yard?—Precisely the same.

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Describe the part of the prison called the Master's Side?—The master's yard is nearly the same size as the middle yard; it has one room on the ground floor, of 38 feet by 15; four rooms of 15 feet by 20, which are up stairs; and two other adjoining rooms; one adjoining one of the rooms on the first floor, and the other adjoining one of the rooms on the second floor; which are about 15 feet square each.

Of what description are the prisoners confined on this side?—All who will pay 13*s.* 6*d.* at their coming in, and half a crown a week afterwards for their bedding, as master side prisoners.

Is the 13*s.* 6*d.* the garnish money?—No; this is prison fees, as by the table I have returned.

What bedding is allowed for that half crown a week?—I furnish them bedding without a bedstead.

They use the barrack bedsteads?—Yes; I find bedding and sheets and rugs.

With the same allowance of a foot and a half to each person?—There is more room now; there are not so many prisoners as there might be there; they are sometimes a little oppressed before the arrival of the September Sessions and the April Sessions, but the rest of the year they are never too much oppressed.

In what respect does the treatment of those prisoners differ from that of the prisoners in the other wards?—Not at all; except that they partake less of charities; they have nothing but the bread; they are persons that can afford to maintain themselves; they do not trench upon the prison charities; the steward has his double allowance, the same as the others, of the bread; they do not take any of the meat; that is charity.

What advantage do they derive from being in that part of the prison?—Comfort, and separation from the lower prisoners; for whenever a man who can afford to live better than the rest, has seen a distressed object near him that he must have supported if he had any feeling, he gets removed from the pressure of that by being placed among people able to live like himself; I believe that is the reason that people come to the master's side, and they are the persons that help to support the gaol.

The other regulations with respect to those prisoners are the same as to the others?—The same; their friends come to them at all times; the women may depart at the end of each hour; the men must wait till there is a muster roll, that is three times a day.

That is the same on each side of the prison?—Yes, except the state side; there they are very few, and we do without a muster roll.

Then all persons, whatever their crimes may be, if they can afford it, may go to the master's side?—Yes, except those who are under sentence of death.

All convicted persons?—Yes, except those under sentence of death.

Do you ever remove any from the master's side after they have gone there?—Yes; according to the rules, if they do not behave well they may be removed, if they insult one another, or otherwise misbehave.

Are they ironed?—Yes.

Are the irons ever removed?—Yes, after good behaviour for a time.

Or on the interest of friends?—Yes, sometimes.

You do not consider their crimes before they have come into the prison, but their behaviour in the prison, as to their continuance on the master's side?—Yes.

Explain the expression you used, that those on the master's side help to support the prison?—Out of those payments, I am enabled to pay the servants of the gaol.

It is part of your income with which you support the gaol?—Yes.

By whom would that expense be incurred if it were not borne in that way?—It would not be incurred at all; it would be beyond my ability to keep it one year, if I was without those payments.

Are the prisoners confined there allowed to work?—Yes; every body is allowed to work, provided the trade is not of a dangerous tendency, and many do work; tailors, shoemakers, and other trades.

What do you mean by a dangerous tendency?—A smith would be considered as of a dangerous tendency.

A lock-

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A locksmith?—A smith of any kind. Every person is allowed to work as far as there is room for him. Where they have a great set of tools that would be dangerous in themselves, such as axes or adzes, they are prohibited. Tailors, shoemakers, watchmakers, jewellers, lapidaries, and seal engravers, are those generally employed. There is a great deal of work done by those who are willing to do it.

You mentioned that it was impossible to employ the convicts under sentence of transportation?—Not by finding them work.

What were the difficulties found?—By their not finishing the work in time. I had a great deal of work some years ago for the army, cartouch boxes and scabbards; and they many of them stole the leather, and the work was not ready in time, and I was obliged to give it up.

What becomes of the money they earn?—They have it themselves.

Would it be possible to introduce any general system of work into Newgate, as at present constituted?—I do not think it would, for these reasons, that there would be no protecting the property.

Are they ever prevented working by their fellow-prisoners?—Very seldom; sometimes in mischief or vexation they will disturb each other.

Do you apply that observation to the transports?—Generally through the whole prison. I do not see that any prisoner is prevented, except from pique or mischief sometimes.

Your observation, as to the want of possibility of procuring work, alluded to the transports?—Yes; those on the master's side could not be employed about such sort of work; they would most of them be above it.

What is the garnish on the master's side?—Half a guinea, I believe, is about the sum; so much for coals, so much for candles, and so on.

Are the wards on the master's side glazed?—No; they have wooden frames with oiled paper, opening inwards.

Do you observe whether the prisoners on the master's side read more than those in the other yards?—No; I do not think that is the case.

Do you observe any reading at all among them?—Yes, sometimes. They have, as all the others have, a Bible in each room; and in some of the rooms it is more used than it is in others.

Are they often in liquor?—Not very often; they do get in liquor sometimes.

Unknown to you, through the medium of their friends?—Yes, through the medium of their friends.

Is it very difficult to prevent?—We are continually apprehending persons bringing spirituous liquors in, and take them before the magistrates, who commit them to Bridewell, and sometimes fine them ten pounds.

Do you find it impossible to prevent the practice altogether?—Yes.

Are the prisoners prohibited playing at cards and dice?—It is not allowed, nor prevented.

Is it much practised?—No, not much.

No notice is taken of gambling?—No notice is taken of their playing at cards or playing at skittles, or any amusement.

Are they punished if they get drunk?—No.

Are they allowed to get drunk with wine?—No; whenever we find them become riotous, we shut out their friends; that is the only preventive.

And that is punishing the innocent with the guilty?—Certainly.

If they get drunk without being riotous, you take no notice of it?—No.

Have you no particular punishment on the individual as distinct from the rest of the ward, in case of a person being found drunk?—If one was found drunk we should remove him, if he was troublesome, into another place till he was sober.

Did you mean to say that the friends only of that person would be prevented access?—Yes, if we knew them; but the number of persons coming is so great, we cannot distinguish the friends of each; they come in 100 together sometimes.

In the regulations of the prison, there is no one allowing you to inflict any specific punishment on drunkenness?—No, I do not think there is.

Is there any system of discipline and duty by which the keeper is enabled to judge of the conduct of the prisoners?—Yes; by the assistance of the turnkeys and

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and the head men of each ward, that we make in some degree answerable for the others.

What reward does that head man have?—There is double allowance of bread; and he has the garnish, whatever is the subscription, for which he shall find them plates and knives and forks, and give any assistance he can.

Is the regulation, in this respect, the same amongst the felons as amongst the debtors?—Yes.

In what manner are the prisoners divided on the master's side?—By rooms; the bottom room is appropriated for prisoners for trial, the double room up one pair of stairs for misdemeanors, and the other rooms for felons.

For convicts?—Yes; convicted felons.

How long ago did you make this arrangement?—Very soon after my examination before the Committee on Penitentiary Houses in 1811; I had a great deal of difficulty in accomplishing it, for they did not like the change.

Those prisoners of different descriptions may associate together in the day-time though not at night?—They may speak together in the yard, but they must not go into each others room without being in danger of being turned over to the common side; any one is subjected to being removed if he does so.

Are you enabled to enforce that regulation?—Yes, very easily; I should not suffer any man to remain in the master's side, or the state side, that did not abide by that rule.

Those that are for trial in the bottom room, are all kept together, of whatever description their crimes may be?—Provided it is the charge of felony, misdemeanors are put together; common assaults we know nothing of in Newgate.

What description of prisoners are confined on the state side?—Some of all sorts, separated by rooms.

You have on the state side one court and twelve rooms?—Yes.

State the dimensions?—The court is 38 feet by 28; the twelve rooms are four on a floor; the largest, 15 by 21; the second, 19 by 15; the third, 12 by 15; and the fourth, 11 feet square; there are three of each sort.

How are the prisoners divided in those different rooms?—By classes, the same as they are on the master's side at present for trial; there are two on the bottom floor in two little rooms; there are one each that are for misdemeanors; in the felons ward, there are four up stairs; in the first floor, there are three for misdemeanors in a ward; two for misdemeanors in little rooms; and three for misdemeanors in the other misdemeanor ward; at the top of the house there are one felon, an untried lunatic, and the editor of a newspaper, in separate rooms.

What determines their being received in this part of the prison?—Their paying a fee.

To what amount?—Two guineas entrance, and seven shillings a week afterwards, if they sleep two in a bed.

In the former report you stated three guineas?—According to the table of fees I am entitled to three guineas, but I have never taken more than two.

What do they pay for rooms?—Seven shillings each per week for beds, supposing two to lie in one bed, otherwise 10*s.* 6*d.* for a single bed; nothing for rooms.

Does not it sometimes happen that that contract cannot be made on account of the crowded state of the prison?—Very rarely; a person has paid me for four beds, in order that he might have no companion; if the place was full I could not permit that.

Would the same circumstances induce the removal of a prisoner from the state side to one of the other sides, that it would from the master's side?—Yes.

Have they any garnish on the state side?—No, I do not believe they have, I never heard of any.

Do the same regulations with respect to seeing friends apply to them?—Yes; they are so few, that there is not so much trouble on that side, and therefore all their friends are let out at the end of each hour; the others have only the women let out at the end of each hour.

In the other parts of the prison they are let out, only at longer intervals?—Yes, three times a day.

How many hours are they locked up in their different rooms in the state side?

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side?—From eight o'clock at night to about eight in the morning; we open the doors sooner in the summer time sometimes.

They are allowed candles?—Yes, and whatever they chuse to buy themselves, provided it is not spirituous liquors, or more than one quart of beer or wine at a time, the same as in the other parts of the prison; one of the conditions of their being received in the state side, is, their receiving no beer or other liquors after eight o'clock in the evening, and no more than one quart of beer or ale, or one bottle of wine at one time; or the admission of visitors there from nine in the morning to seven in the evening in the summer, and until dusk in the winter.

Do the same regulations refer to the prisoners that are in your house, that are applicable to the other prisoners?—Yes; I shut them up at the same time, only I make them the last that I shut up.

Is any person admitted into the state side, on paying fees, without reference to the crime for which he is committed?—Yes.

And without reference to whether he is for trial or convicted?—Except from the Court of King's Bench, and those sort of people; there are very few convicts come; no transports come originally there.

Are not transports in different gaols in the country sent to Newgate sometimes?—No; the keepers of them lodge them one night in their way, but I have no care of them.

Are persons admitted into the state side, paying the entrance and fees, even though convicted of a transportable offence?—Yes; they inhabit different rooms.

How long has the lunatic referred to, been confined there?—He has been there ever since the year 1808, I think.

Hatfield is in the prison besides?—Yes, he is in a room by himself.

Is the other entirely confined to his room?—Yes, entirely.

He is considered as an incurable lunatic?—Yes, he is sometimes a little dangerous; there is a person employed by his friends to be with him; they are respectable people.

Are there any other lunatics?—There are three or four more.

Where are they confined?—In different parts of the prison; there are only two that are anyway dangerous; Hatfield one, and the other which I first mentioned.

Are the others confined solitarily?—No, they are among other prisoners.

How long have the other two been there?—Not a great while, I cannot tell immediately the time, but not a twelvemonth; one I should mention we have put in the Infirmary, for the sake of his being under the care of the doctor's mate.

Describe the part of the prison for females?—For all sorts of females there are two yards opening into each other, one 40 feet by 10, and the other 18 feet by 9, or thereabouts.

Describe the wards?—There are two large wards occupied by women, each 36 feet by 15; the upper floor of the same size is divided into an infirmary, and a recovery ward; at the end of each of these three wards there is a room of 15 feet by 12, the lower one is used indiscriminately by the inhabitants of the ward adjoining, the middle one is used for women under sentence of death, and the upper one is the nurse's room of the infirmary.

Are the women under sentence of death allowed to have intercourse with the rest of the female prisoners during the day-time?—Yes, unless ordered for execution, and then they are removed into another part by themselves.

In the yards and rooms you have described, women committed to Newgate for crimes of all descriptions are placed together?—Yes; there are three other rooms I have not yet mentioned, opposite to these wards, on the other side of the staircase, that are called the Master's Side Rooms.

What size are they?—About fifteen feet square; those are for women who chuse to go to the master's side, subject to the same regulations as the men who chuse to go the master's side.

Those who go on the master's side and the others, may all associate together?—Yes; there is but one yard.

Those committed, those convicted, and those under sentence of death?—Yes; in one of them is an iron grating, that the friends can converse without mixing with them.

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Are men ever admitted within the yards?—Yes, sometimes, but very rarely; a husband, or father, or brother, or any relation; but men are not generally admitted, they converse through the iron railing.

From the street?—No, not from the street, but from the lodge.

Are the women's allowances for food, clothing and bedding, the same as the men's?—Yes, with the addition of oatmeal for their breakfasts; they have gruel for their breakfasts.

Is this allowance of oatmeal in lieu of the four ounces of bread?—No, it is in addition; it is a gift of the Court of Aldermen.

Does the Chaplain ever visit the women?—Yes, sometimes.

Frequently?—Not lately; he has been unwell.

Has anybody attended for him during his illness?—No, I believe not, officially; there have been gentlemen there, clergymen, but whether they came from him or not I cannot say.

Has any report of his absence been made to the Court of Aldermen?—No, I do not believe there has.

When he is in health he has regularly attended?—Yes.

Has he any place in which he converses separately with any of the women?—The vestry.

When he was in good health was he in the habit of doing that frequently?—Yes.

Do you mean that the chaplain does not visit them so frequently as the other persons in the prison?—He visits those under sentence of death more than any other prisoners.

Are any of the friends of the female prisoners allowed to see them separately?—Yes, there is a room called the Wine Room; formerly, when taps were kept, it was the place where they used to have their wine, into which any prisoners, either women or men, are called out to speak to their friends at their desire.

Are instances of drunkenness, pilfering and swearing, frequent among the women prisoners?—Yes, there have been.

More than amongst the men?—No, I do not know that there have been more than among the men; they are very orderly now in general.

How do you punish the women that are refractory?—If they are very refractory and fight, we shut them up in a dark room for an hour or two.

Have you frequently girls of a tender age committed there?—Yes, of all ages.

Any so young as twelve?—There was a little girl tried last session but one, that was not above nine years old, I think.

What was her sentence?—She was privately whipped by order of the Court.

During the whole time of her confinement she was shut up with these women of all descriptions?—Yes; there was no separation.

Is any difference made between the treatment of those women committed to take their trial, and those actually convicted?—Not at all.

Is any work ever done by the female prisoners?—By some of them, but it is liable to the same objections generally as the men; there is no getting work for them; by individuals there has been a great deal of work done, needle work.

What is the number of female prisoners now?—In the lower room there are twenty-nine women and six children.

What number will the lower room conveniently hold, allowing a foot and a half to each person?—Twenty-four; they might lie closer than men; I believe there is room on the barracks for all that are there.

You say the room in which there are twenty-nine women and six children will hold conveniently twenty-four?—It will hold more, for they have access to a little room adjoining, but the room itself will hold twenty-four.

How many will that room, and the little room adjoining, conveniently hold?—The little rooms will very conveniently hold about six persons each, and there are two of them; in the floor above, there are twenty-six women and four children; there is a large room and two small ones.

How many will these rooms conveniently hold?—Thirty-six.

Are the children in arms?—They are young ones; most of the children there are young.

How many women are in the prison?—Sixty-seven, I think, altogether; they all come into one place, and fifteen children.

Have you not frequently had considerably more in the same space?—Yes,

twice

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twice the number; the number has lately been reduced by a removal to Botany Bay.

What is the greatest number you have ever had?—I think about twice the present number.

About 134?—Yes, thereabouts.

So as to fill all the wards and the Infirmary besides?—Yes.

When such was the case, where did you keep the sick prisoners?—We crowded the other wards, so as to leave room for the sick, and admitted none into the Infirmary but those really sick; the other wards were relieved by letting a few into a room called the Recovery Ward; the pressure would be upon the two great rooms.

How old do you allow the women to bring their children with them?—They should not bring others than those in arms; it is not regularly allowed.

Do they ever do it?—Yes, they do it frequently.

To what age, and in what number?—They have been there as old as sixteen.

Boys?—No, girls; not boys of that age.

With their mothers?—Yes.

More than one child to one woman?—Sometimes.

Two or three? - Yes; there were some admitted to go with their mothers, as children, one of whom was eighteen, to Botany Bay.

Are the rules you observe, respecting the admision of female prisoners into the master's side, the same as you observe in respect of the males on the master's side?—Yes.

They pay 13 *s.* 6 *d.*?—Yes; and half a crown a week.

Are they allowed to have more children with them than the others?—No.

They all use the same yard?—Yes; there is no other yard till the alteration takes place; then the yard we now speak of, will be for prisoners for trial only.

Have they any garnish?—Yes; I believe they have a trifling garnish, but they seldom get it; among the women they charge five shillings.

How many women have you ever known in Newgate at one time, under sentence of transportation?—Somewhere about 100; I am not prepared to state whether exceeding the hundred or a little under it; the number of women transports now, is seventeen.

Have you the same regulations for the government of the females as for the other prisoners?—Yes; they have a wards-woman, as she is called, the same as on the other side.

How long are the women in Newgate, after sentence of transportation, in general?—About half a year generally; a ship has generally been taken up once in half a year, latterly; that has cleared some of them off; some years ago they used to remain a long time, sometimes.

Is the regulation for allowing liquors to the women the same?—Yes, exactly the same.

With no greater limit?—No.

Is the ward-woman, as you call it, to provide the spoons and plates?—Yes, whenever it is wanted; but the women manage better for themselves individually than the men; they do not want the same help.

Has the ward-woman double allowance?—Yes; just the same as the men.

What means do they use to enforce the payment of garnish?—Only to scold and be ill tempered to those who will not pay.

Not tearing clothes?—No, they do not carry it to the length the men do; they pilfer from each other sometimes; but I do not see that there are any open robberies.

Has not the distress for bedding been greater among the women than among the men?—No, I do not think it has, except when we have happened to be very much crowded; when I had the honour of being before the Committee formerly, we were very much crowded; but the women have more resource than the men, and manage better.

Those apartments will accommodate very well about seventy-two?—Yes.

Allowing the same proportion of a foot and a half?—Yes.

Does that leave any allowance for children?—The children take but very little room.

After the debtors shall have been removed to the prison now building for them, and the Fines and Misdemeanors transferred to the proposed house of correction, is

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is it your opinion that sufficient capacity will remain in Newgate for the proper accommodation of criminals, and due classification and separation of offenders?—Yes, I think there will be room, if the convicts are removed from time to time, that there will be quite room sufficient; the present debtors side will make a very good prison for convicted felons, that includes transports, and those under sentence for felony.

You say if the transports are removed from time to time; what time do the men generally remain?—The mass of people do not remain above half a year, or thereabouts.

Do you conceive the gaol, after the removal of the debtors, and persons convicted of misdemeanors, will be sufficient for all the felons, if those who are sentenced to transportation are removed within six months?—If they are removed within six months after conviction there will be quite room enough.

Are you enabled, from your experience, to suggest any mode that is likely to put an effectual stop to the practice adopted by the prisoners, of compelling the payment of what is called Garnish, by new comers?—I think that a very small allowance, as a compensation in lieu of garnish, and a positive order of the magistrates, would cure it at once.

Then you think, if the allowances which the garnish at present furnishes, were afforded by the magistrates, the garnish would not be levied?—A much less allowance, with a positive order that it should not be collected in future, I think would prevent it altogether.

You have stated, that some difficulty arises in the establishing any regular system of work; do you imagine that difficulty to arise from want of room, and that when the new prison is built, it will be possible to establish a system of work by a manufactory, or by instruction in different businesses?—Yes, I think there might be room gained to give facility to their working, by appropriating one of the yards to that purpose, calling it a yard for persons inclined to work, and letting those go to it who were willing to work, without considering the classification; there would not be room if every class was to work by itself; if you let all disposed to work go there without regard to whether they were imprisoned for one offence or another.

Then they would work in the open yard?—I include in my idea the rooms attached to the yard.

Do you conceive, that by the removal of those classes of prisoners, which have been stated in the question just put, there would be sufficient room for the criminals, and also for those working rooms, and for the infirmaries, and for the necessary accommodations?—Yes, I think there would.

Do you think the establishment of a hat manufactory or stocking manufactory would be productive of advantage?—Yes, if it could be managed; but in the gaols where they have those things, they cannot carry them to any great extent. I was last week at Shrewsbury, and examined the gaol built there, which is very well adapted for work, where nobody is admitted, and there is no danger of losing property, and yet they can get work for nobody but the women; there were only two men at work; they were, a cabinetmaker and a joiner.

From your observation do you think an important moral result would be produced by the appropriation of places for work?—Yes, I think a great many would avail themselves of it, if there were a place appropriated to it.

How often is divine service performed in the chapel?—Twice on Sunday, a sermon in the morning, and prayers in the afternoon.

Has that been the case since the chaplain has been ill?—Since his illness, once or twice it has been missed; the chapel has been shut up, to convert it into a ward, from the fear of an infectious fever; there could be no service in the chapel during that time.

Have you service in the course of the week?—Yes, on Wednesday and Friday morning.

During the time the chapel was shut up, was there any service whatever performed within the prison?—Not public service.

How many will the chapel conveniently hold?—I think it may hold about two hundred, I do not think it will hold more; the chapel is much too small.

Do you use any means to compel attendance?—No; if they do not attend chapel they are not permitted to run about the yards; we shut them up in their rooms during divine service.

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Are the different classes of prisoners separated in the chapel?—Partly so; the women in one gallery, and the debtors in the gallery opposite, and the felons in the body of the chapel, with a pew in the middle for the capital convicts.

Is there any clerk to guide the congregation in their responses?—No.

In point of fact are the responses made?—Very indifferently sometimes, sometimes they do it pretty well, if there happens to be anybody there that will act as clerk, and is attentive in it, at other times they make no responses at all.

Do the convicts and those under sentence of death regularly attend?—No; last Sunday only three out of seven would attend the condemned sermon; one is a Catholic.

Are they specially invited so to do?—Yes, they are.

Supposing some of the prisoners are removed, as is intended, would there be any other part of Newgate in which it would be possible to prepare a chapel that would hold all the prisoners that would remain?—No, I do not think there is; there is a part just behind Newgate, the yard of the College of Physicians, that would make a very good chapel, if it could be had for the purpose.

Might the present chapel be enlarged?—Yes, by raising the roof a little higher, and building a couple of galleries.

Does the chapel hold all those that are willing to attend?—Yes, I have never seen it over crowded yet.

You state in a paper returned to the Committee, that broken victuals are frequently brought to the prison from Messrs. Birch, of Cornhill, and Messrs. Leach and Dallimore, of Ludgate Hill; are these brought out of charity, or are they paid for by the City of London?—From charity; one of my men goes with a truck that holds a large tub, and brings away the meat that has made turtle soup, sometimes in great quantities; and when heated and stirred together in a saucepan, it is like a portable soup, and is very good eating.

From this, and all the other charities, and all the allowances taken together, made to the prison, have the criminal prisoners more than barely sufficient to subsist them?—They have barely a sufficiency; it very frequently happens that it is not enough for some.

Taking all the charities, including the Sheriffs Fund and all?—Yes; I do not mean that they live well, but that they would not starve upon it.

You say there is not enough for some?—There are but few that have not some friends to assist them.

Supposing some of them had not assistance from their friends, would it be sufficient?—It would keep them from starving, but it would be hardly sufficient.

If their friends were excluded, would it be necessary to add to the quantity for their subsistence?—Yes; I think a pound of beef a week more; two pounds of beef per week with the bread and other allowances, I think would be sufficient, without the assistance of friends.

Without additional bread?—Yes, I think it would do without more bread.

Do instances ever occur in prison of persons who have no assistance from their friends, and are therefore exposed to hardship?—Yes; but then either the Sheriffs or the Aldermen are always open to applications of that sort; no person has suffered seriously when his case has once been known.

Is any account of the legacies hung up in the prison?—Yes; in the debtors yard; the legacies are all to debtors; there are no legacies to the other side.

Is any account of the charities hung up on the criminal side?—No.

Do the criminals know then to what they are entitled?—No; they believe it is all in gifts, that may be discontinued next day.

Have the criminals any means of knowing whether all intended by the donors to be given them, is given them in fact?—They know what bread they ought to have, and they know the quantity of meat allowed by the Sheriffs Fund.

Is that stuck up?—No; because though it is so this year, it may not be so the next.

What means have the prisoners of consulting legal advice?—By their friends coming to them; they come into their rooms to them, or see them in the accommodation room I have spoken of.

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Has it ever occurred that the pockets of those who have visited the gaol have been picked?—Yes, it has very frequently.

Has the gaol improved in that particular since you were examined before the Committee on Penitentiary Houses?—Yes; but there are now two men under sentence of transportation under capital conviction, for a robbery committed in the prison; they will be transported for life.

Is the prison well supplied with Water?—Very well; with spring water and river water both.

Are brooms supplied by the City?—Yes; on the criminal side about 20 *l.* a year is allowed for mops and brooms.

In distributing the provisions to the prisoners, have you any regulation by which you distribute only to those who are clean, or do you give equally to the clean and the dirty?—We give equally to all.

Have you no regulation to enforce cleanliness among the prisoners?—No; only by telling them if they are dirty, and remonstrating with them for it.

There are no rules to guide them?—No particular rules; if they persisted in being dirty, I should keep their friends out, and represent to them that that kind of behaviour was likely to bring on infectious fevers, in which the surgeon would assist me, in shutting up a ward and fumigating it with them in it, if they would not use their endeavours to be clean; but they are generally pretty well in that respect.

Are the rooms often whitewashed?—They are twice a year done with lime wash.

At what hour are prisoners acquitted or discharged by proclamation sent away?—Persons acquitted are sent away from the bar immediately.

Do they receive any thing when they go?—No; when discharged by proclamation, for want of prosecution, or on the bill being thrown out, they are discharged in the morning, and the women have a shilling a piece, which is a gift of Mr. Alexander Bennett.

Will that continue after his death?—I do not intend ever to discontinue it.

Are those discharged, frequently destitute of friends and lodging in London?—I have heard of that; but it does not often happen.

Have you ever heard of it by their being brought back for a fresh offence?—I have known more instances than one of their being brought back the same day.

Has it ever happened that you are obliged to keep felons, from their not being able to pay the fees on being discharged?—Yes.

What are the fees on being discharged?—18 *s.* 10 *d.* and 6 *s.* 2 *d.* to the clerk in court, making 25 *s.*

On the discharge of any felon?—Yes.

After an acquittal?—No; the acquittal is paid by the City, in London; the County will not pay any part of it for their prisoners, and therefore it is not paid at all; I have applied for it, but they will not pay it.

How long has any prisoner ever been detained for not paying his fees?—Two days.

Never longer?—No, never longer; I never kept the poor ones at all, those that were unable, but only when they have been contumacious and said they would not pay it.

What is the particular class of felons subject to this payment?—Those who have suffered imprisonment from a conviction.

Though from humanity you never exercise it, yet you have the power of detaining those who cannot pay?—I consider that I have the right of keeping them till it is paid.

In short, if you do not enforce it, is it not a loss of part of your emoluments?—Yes, it is.

There is a conduct fee for taking a prisoner out of prison before any jurisdiction in London; on what occasion is that paid?—It is generally paid by the person applying for a writ of Habeas Corpus, and seldom by the prisoner himself; it is a customary fee.

Do any advantages arise from the fees beyond the assistance which they afford to the support of the gaol.

They

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They go to the general account to support the gaol, and to pay me for the duty; they are, in fact, part of my salary.

Is there any peculiar advantage in that mode of making up your salary?—No, I do not know that there is; those that cannot afford to pay it, perhaps behave the better in the hopes of being forgiven.

Yet those only, whom you know to be unable to pay it, are those that are forgiven?—No, only those, or any who have been useful. If one of the wardsmen had been very useful I should not take his fees.

Have the majority of the felons irons on?—Yes, I believe they have.

As well those for trial as those who have been convicted?—Yes.

Is any fee paid for taking off the irons?—No, there is not.

What is the great advantage you consider to result from putting the irons on the prisoners?—As a mark for safety to distinguish them from strangers, that they could not change clothes with a stranger, and deceive us so well. When prisoners have been so long there as to be known well, it would not be of so much consequence.

If strangers were permitted only to talk to them through a grating, would irons be necessary?—Not at all.

Or if they had an appropriate dress?—Dress would not be of so much consequence while persons would bring them another to change.

If the prison were enlarged, or the number of prisoners diminished, would irons be necessary?—Yes, at present, while there is an intercourse; and so would it be on taking them down to the Old Bailey for sentences, there would be a necessity for using them.

Do they complain of the irons as being oppressive?—No, they only complain when they have heavy ones put on for punishment.

What is the weight of the heaviest irons you ever put on?—About seven or eight pounds.

Are those heavy irons ever worn for days together, or only for a short time?—Only for a short time.

You never chain them down to the floor?—Very rarely; I was obliged to do so in the case of one prisoner, who was continually endeavouring to escape; a chain was run through the irons to prevent his climbing up to the window; he was not chained prostrate to the floor; he could walk a little space, but could not get to the window.

You never use any chains round the neck?—Never.

At what time were the tables of fees settled?—I understand, somewhere about the year 1729.

They were not arranged under the Act of 32 Geo. II.—No; there is an Act of Parliament, the date of which I do not recollect, authorizing the magistrates to settle fees, but the rules and orders for the regulation of the prisoners must be confirmed by the Judges.

You have no profit upon the sale of the liquors to the gaol?—Not at all.

Is one person appointed to supply the gaol?—The Sheriffs name what brewer shall serve, and he appoints his publican, that publican pays the tapster so much a gallon for as much as he sells; the debtors have theirs from where they please, and appoint their own publican, who also pays the tapster who attends; which tapster is liable to be put away by me, if they suffer spirituous liquors to be introduced by him.

Is the beer charged to the prisoners at the same price as to the Public, at public houses?—The same; the only difference they make is to visitors, if any visitors come to the press yard they will not serve them without making them pay more; the prisoners pay exactly the same as customers at a public house.

Have you a separate class of debtors, called Court of Conscience Debtors?—Yes.

Are they kept distinct from the others?—Yes, they have a room to themselves.

Have they the same allowances?—Yes; they are entitled to every thing the same as other debtors, they are part of the charity ward, they are part of the poor that partake of the charitable donations.

They pay no fees of any nature whatever?—No, they pay a garnish; I think the captain of their room charges them 2 *s.*

You state that the friends of the women can see and talk to them through the iron

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iron grate; do you not think that if the same plan were adopted as to the male prisoners, it would not only contribute to the order of the prison, but render irons unnecessary?—I do not know that it would contribute to the order of the prison; it would be very disagreeable to the prisoners, they had rather have the irons than have their friends excluded.

You stated, that you let apartments in your own house to prisoners?—I have always done it unwillingly, I had rather not.

Do you mean to say, that if a person was not able to pay the sum of money you charge, he would be placed in the same room as persons committed for crimes, whatever they might be?—He would be in the class to which he belonged, the commitment is to the common prison of Newgate; if any persons wish to come out of the common prison, they purchase their way out into the class they like; I would not admit them into my house unless I could by that send my family out, I would never mix them with my family for any price, whatever their rank might be.

Sabbati, 2° die Aprilis 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN in The Chair.

Mr. *John Teague*, called in, and Examined.

Mr. John Teague.

YOU are the keeper of the Giltspur-street compter?—I am.

How long have you been in that situation?—Ten years, next September.

By whom appointed?—By the Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen.

Is it a verbal or a written appointment?—A written appointment, signed by Mr. Woodthorpe, as Town Clerk; the appointment ran, that I was appointed by Sir James Shaw and Sir William Leighton, as Sheriffs, and approved by the Court of Aldermen.

With what salary?—250*l.* from the Court of Aldermen, and 30*l.* from the Court of Common Council; making 280*l.*

With any additional emolument arising out of fees and rent of rooms?—Yes.

Upon the average, to what amount?—I am not prepared to answer that; I have to maintain the gaol, to pay all the turnkeys, and other servants.

You support the whole establishment of the gaol?—Yes, I do.

Out of your salary and fees?—Yes; I pay the servants.

Are you enabled to give the Committee a rough estimate of what that expense amounts to?—It amounts to about 150*l.* a year, a little more or less.

The whole expense you pay out of your emoluments, amounts to about 150*l.* a year?—Yes; it generally runs about 3*l.* a week, that I pay the servants.

What description of prisoners are committed to your charge?—Debtors, felons, and night charges.

No other criminals but felons?—For misdemeanors and felonies, and night charges; the night charges are now, owing to a late regulation, taken in at the Poultry compter; but they are considered as in my custody notwithstanding, and I keep a servant there to attend them.

They seldom remain there more than one night?—No more than one night; then they are committed or remanded; if they are remanded, they come to Giltspur-street.

The fees that would be paid for the night charges in Giltspur-street, are now paid to you for those lodged in the Poultry compter?—Yes, they are, for the west district of the City of London; the Lord Mayor takes the east district, and the sitting Alderman takes the west.

State the division of that district.—From King-street to Temple Bar is the west, and from King-street to the eastern extremity of the City of London, is the Lord Mayor's jurisdiction.

To what prison are the charges within the eastern district committed?—To the Poultry compter.

The Poultry prisoners are now kept in Giltspur-street compter?—The Poultry debtors and felons are now kept in Giltspur-street compter.

Have you ever been so full as not to be able to keep all the felons and debtors in

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in Giltspur-street compter?—We have been very full when the night charges and all were at Giltspur-street compter, then the Court of Aldermen removed some of them back to the Poultry compter.

At what period was that?—In the year 1805; the whole of the prisoners from the Poultry compter were removed to Giltspur-street in 1804.

Was that in consequence of the Poultry compter being so much out of repair?—Yes, it was; there was an Act of Parliament for it.

Describe that part of the prison which is appropriated to debtors?—It is the back part of the Giltspur-street compter, consisting of a yard and a large building, which contains four wards, two of them are sleeping wards, and two of them are day wards; the common side debtors yard is 75 feet by 18.

To this what wards are attached?—The two upper wards are used as bed-rooms, and fitted up with sixteen beds each, one of them is used for the debtors of the Giltspur-street compter, and the other for the Poultry compter debtors.

Under what process are debtors sent to Giltspur-street?—From the Court of King's Bench, Common Pleas, Exchequer, the Lord Mayor's Court, the Sheriffs Court, and the Court of Requests.

How do you distinguish between the Poultry debtors and the Giltspur-street debtors?—We take them alternately, as they come in.

Then is it only a name, and is there no actual distinction?—They mix together in the course of the day, they are kept distinct only by night.

Who has the custody of the Poultry compter debtors?—Mr. Kirby, the keeper of the Poultry compter, that was provided under the Act of Parliament, and that part in which these prisoners are confined is called the Poultry Compter of the City of London for the time being.

And though under the roof of your prison, you have no control over them?—No.

Is the yard considered as the Poultry compter or the Giltspur-street compter?—It is used by both.

Have you any jurisdiction whatever over the Poultry compter debtors?—None at all.

You say there are two sleeping rooms and two wards?—Yes.

Is that one bed room and one sitting room for each compter?—Yes, it is.

And they pay different fees and have different allowances?—Yes.

What is the number of debtors now confined in the ward under your jurisdiction?—About 30.

Is that on the common side?—Yes.

How many do you remember ever to have slept in that room?—I cannot exactly say; the bed ward is appointed for sixteen, there are sixteen beds; and when the prisoners were removed in 1804, we had hammocks slung up over them, I suppose that would accommodate eight or nine more; but now we have a different mode of accommodating them, the overplus who cannot be accommodated there are accommodated in a room which formerly used to be occupied by the night charges, they being now removed to the old Poultry compter.

How many will that room hold?—That room will hold twenty.

Does that room communicate to the same yard?—No; they only occupy that room by night, not by day; they are removed at ten o'clock at night.

Have you ever had many more debtors than 36?—Yes; before the Insolvent Act we had between 60 and 70 debtors.

What is the length of the sleeping ward?—The yard is 75 feet in length, and the building goes the length of the whole yard; it is divided by a staircase in the centre, there is only the room of the staircase taken out, therefore it must be thirty-two or thirty-three feet long; the sleeping ward and the day ward are of the same dimensions.

In what manner did you accommodate them, when you had nearly seventy debtors in the prison?—They occupied the day wards as sleeping wards.

How many could you accommodate there?—The day wards were fitted up with hammocks, which were removed in the daytime. I forget now how many were accommodated in that way; perhaps fifteen or sixteen, or thereabouts.

What proportion of those debtors were women?—We seldom have more than three or four women: I have only two now.

Where are they kept?—They occupy a room on the master's side, in the front of the prison.

What

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What allowance is made to the debtors?—Ten ounces of bread a day, seven stone of beef weekly from the Sheriffs for the whole of the number, and six pounds of potatoes for each prisoner. The potatoes and the bread are paid for by the Court of Aldermen out of the funds of the City.

Are the prisoners enabled to subsist upon this allowance?—With the assistance of their friends.

Without the assistance of their friends, upon this allowance, would they be able to subsist?—No; I should think hardly, it would be barely sufficient without some further allowance.

Do not the charities amount to 52 *l.* a year?—Yes, they do.

In what manner are they applied?—They are received by the steward, who supplies the wards with coals, candles and other articles, soap and such things, for the use of the prisoners; and he is in continual advance for the prisoners, and receives those donations as the quarter becomes due, then he is reimbursed. I do not at all interfere in this, they regulate this among themselves; they have an audit committee, and keep a check upon the steward. I interfere only in the collecting, and paying over to the steward.

Have they a code of laws for their own government?—Yes, they have; made by three of the Aldermen and three of the Judges.

Is any garnish allowed?—Yes, they have what they call garnish; each prisoner, when he comes in, pays 6 *s.* to the steward, which is applied to that fund that is amongst themselves.

The steward is one of the prisoners?—Yes.

Are coals, or mops, or candles, allowed by the City?—Mops and brooms to a sufficient amount are provided by the City.

You mentioned that there was 52 *l.* a year generally in charity, that produces certain comforts?—Yes.

Is the garnish applied to the same purpose?—Yes; it is all thrown into one fund.

All the charities are given in money?—Yes, these are; there are some other charities.

How are coals and candles supplied?—Out of this general fund.

None are furnished by the City?—Yes; the Lord Mayor gives two chaldron of coals annually, and the Sheriffs give two chaldron annually; sometimes the Committee of city lands give them a couple of chaldrons of coals.

Who supplies candles?—They come out of that fund I have spoken of; none are given by the City.

The coals, you have spoken of, are given to the Giltspur-street prison?—Yes; the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs give each ten chaldrons a year to the whole of the prisons.

Are there two chaldrons for Giltspur-street Compter, for debtors and for felons?—Yes; and we distribute them at our discretion among the felons and the debtors.

Has inconvenience been frequently felt among the debtors in your prison from cold?—They have always had an ample supply of coals from their own fund.

The allowance from the City would not have been sufficient without the assistance of their own fund?—No.

In what manner is the payment of garnish enforced among them?—That is a thing entirely among themselves; I never interfere in it, unless an appeal is made to me by a person who feels himself aggrieved. I asked before I came out, and was told, that if a person was poor they never pressed it; but that if a person was not, they enforced it, and it went to the purchase of coals and candles.

You have seen no instances of ill usage in the enforcing it?—No, I never saw any, nor had any appeal to me, in consequence of any such circumstance.

What beds are provided to the debtor-side of the prison?—The beds are canvass ticks, filled with straw; they may provide their own, if they like.

How many beds are provided by the City?—As many as are required; the allowance by the Committee of city lands is four dozen to each compter; that is, 48 ticks yearly to Giltspur-street compter.

What quantity of rugs?—Eight dozen of rugs annually.

To the whole prison?—Yes.

For felons as well as debtors?—Yes.

Should

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Should more be wanted, are they immediately supplied?—They are, upon an application to the Committee of city lands.

You were never refused?—Never.

You stuff the canvass ticks with straw?—We supply them with straw, and they fill them themselves; and, when it is required, they burn the straw, and we give them clean.

Are you not afraid of letting them have straw?—No; our place is fire proof.

Do you ever find that they pawn the beds?—They are not worth pawning; they will cut them up, and make towels of them, and such sort of things as that.

Do you ever find they destroy the rugs?—They destroy the rugs very much.

Among the felons?—Yes.

How often do you furnish them with straw?—As often as required; when a number of them say their beds want fresh straw, we have a load of straw in for them immediately.

At whose expense is the straw furnished?—At the expense of the City of London.

When you had seventy debtors, did you apply for more beds?—We had an additional allowance of beds at that time; it was immediately granted upon our application.

Who appoints the steward?—The debtors appoint him, with the approbation of the keeper.

Is he removable by the debtors?—He is removable, upon any reasonable complaint made by the debtors to the keeper.

You say there is a Committee of Audit to look into the accounts?—Yes.

How is that chosen?—By the whole number of prisoners.

Is that provided for by the laws that have received the sanction of the Judges?—It is.

What is paid for the removal of a debtor to the master's side?—Five shillings; the rooms are calculated for two, but if a person chooses to occupy a room so as to prevent my placing another there, he pays me 5*s.* a week; but I have seldom many cases of that kind.

For how many debtors have you accommodation on the master's side?—I have seven rooms on the master's side.

Those would furnish accommodation for fourteen?—Yes.

Have they any advantages beyond the enjoyment of more room and better society?—None; the only advantage is a seclusion from the other debtors,

Do they partake of the charities?—No; those solely on the master's side do not partake of the charities.

Or allowances from the City?—The bread and potatoes excepted: they do not partake of the beef; the beef is given only to those of the common side, who go to chapel.

Do they attend tolerably regularly at chapel?—Yes.

What regulations have you for the admission of liquors?—We have an extract from the Act of Parliament put up in every part of the prison, to prevent persons bringing in spirituous liquors, and when we detect any person, we take them before the magistrates, and they are disposed of by them.

In what manner are wine and beer provided for the prisoners?—The beer by a publican in the neighbourhood, who brings it in, in cans to the turnkey, and the publican pays the turnkey for serving it out for the prisoners; a prisoner pays no more for it than he could get it at out of doors.

Is there any check to the quantity?—No; provided they do not get intoxicated.

Is the turnkey the person to whom you trust chiefly for information on that subject?—No; our own observation, as well as the report of the turnkey.

Have they the liberty of purchasing wine?—Yes; but not to have more than one bottle in their possession at one time.

Is any wine sold within the walls of the prison?—No; none would be allowed.

What is the limitation to the quantity of beer?—That they shall not have more than one pot in their possession at one time.

There is no provision as to how often it may be filled?—No.

In point of fact, is intoxication common among the debtors?—Not very common; it does happen sometimes certainly.

If

Mr. John Teague.

If they are refractory what punishment do you inflict?—Imprisonment in a solitary cell, at the discretion of the keeper, not less than three hours nor more than twelve hours; that is according to the rules and orders.

Under what regulations are their friends admitted?—They are admitted indiscriminately, from eight o'clock in the morning till nine in the evening.

Are they then all obliged to leave the prison?—From nine to ten no person is suffered to go in or out, and at ten o'clock the strangers all depart.

Is the wife of a debtor allowed to remain with him on the master's side?—Yes; she is, on the master's side.

Are children suffered to remain—Yes; where they occupy a room to themselves.

Do many of the debtors work?—I have only one who works at this time, he is a carpenter, he makes small deal tables.

Have the women debtors a yard to themselves?—They have.

Without any communication with the men?—The women debtors occupy a room on the master's side; those belonging to the Poultry compter have a yard to themselves on the side, a very good yard.

And every convenience?—Yes, they have.

Are the women of the Poultry compter and the Giltspur-street compter kept in one room?—Yes.

Have you any infirmary belonging to the debtor's side?—We have a very good infirmary; a very good establishment; we have a nurse paid by the City, coals and candles found her, and she is paid also for every prisoner who is removed up there by order of the surgeon.

Do the two gaolers live in the same prison?—No; I live there.

Supposing that any of the prisoners of the Poultry compter should be refractory, should you feel yourself at liberty to interfere with them?—Yes; the servants belonging to Mr. Kirby are on the spot, and I should feel myself perfectly at liberty to give them directions how they should act.

Should you consider yourself as legally warranted in confining a Poultry compter debtor in a cell?—I should advise it, and the servants of Mr. Kirby would of course take the responsibility.

How far off does Mr. Kirby sleep?—At the old Poultry compter, which he keeps.

The fee for the discharge of a debtor is 8*s.* 10*d.*?—Yes.

Are they often so distressed as not to be able to pay it?—Whenever they require to be paid, we have a number of charities always ready to assist them in paying that fee.

Is that fee paid out of the general contribution by the steward, or whom?—The fee is paid by the different charities, unless the debtor pays it himself; he has no occasion to pay it, if he wants assistance; he always has it if he is deserving.

To what charities do you refer?—To the Thatched House Society, to the Merchant Taylors Company, and a variety of companies always ready to assist an unfortunate debtor.

They are not paid out of the funds of which the steward has the charge?—By no means.

Have you a chapel to this prison?—Yes; the chaplain who does the duty is the chaplain of the Poultry compter; the chaplain for the Giltspur-street compter is deceased, and no new appointment has taken place, because we have but one chapel, and service is never omitted.

Is the chapel sufficiently large to contain a great number?—To contain all the prisoners.

Do they attend tolerably regularly?—They do.

Have you any clerk?—Yes, we have one appointed by the Court of Aldermen, who is paid for his services.

Is there a bath?—Yes, a warm bath and a cold bath.

Used occasionally as medical advice shall direct?—Yes.

Have you a surgeon?—Yes, who attends daily.

Does he keep a surgeon's book?—The last appointment was only the last week; on the death of Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Wadd was appointed.

Who finds medicines?—The surgeon; he is allowed a certain sum for medicines; we have a medical chest in the prison supplied by the city.

Mr. John Teague.

Did the last surgeon keep any book?—He did not.

Is it part of the establishment of the prison to have a surgeon's book?—No, it is not so directed in any of the rules and orders.

Is the prison often visited?—It is by the Aldermen; the Aldermen are the Visiting Magistrates.

Do they enter their observations in any book?—No, they do not.

Is there a book to receive their observations?—No.

Into what number of yards is the criminal side of Giltspur-street compter divided?—We have two, one on the master's side, and the other on the common side for male criminals; and one yard for the women criminals, which is occupied by the criminals of the two compters; they are mixed on the common side.

Are the Poultry compter criminals separated from the Giltspur-street criminals?—The women are mixed, but the men are not.

Describe the common felons side?—The common felons side has six cells, which will hold two or three persons, they are calculated for two, but sometimes there are three.

What size are they?—About eight feet square, fitted up with a wooden barrack bedstead; straw ticking, and two rugs for each prisoner.

Do you ever remember as many as four persons in each cell?—Such a thing may have happened, but very seldom indeed, and that only for a night or two.

Have there been three very often?—Yes, just previous to the sessions; when we have been very full, we remove all our prisoners six days before the sessions to Newgate.

The cells are open at the top of the door?—Yes, they are, and ventilated by a circular place in the back part opposite to the door, so that they have a free ventilation of air.

There is no glass; it is oiled paper?—Yes, they have a door to shut up to exclude the air if they think proper; that is with themselves, they may either let it be down or shut it up.

What is the size of the yard attached to the common side?—It is a very narrow yard; it is about five feet wide, and about thirty feet long; it is the whole length of the cells.

It is more like a passage than a yard?—It is.

Is there any day room?—They have what is termed a kitchen or a day room; that is also very narrow, but by having the fire in that, the warmth of the fire is communicated to the back part of the cells, by an aperture in the wall opening into each cell.

How are they supplied with coals?—They are supplied with coals by a portion of the four chaldron which the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs send; we always put by a quantity for them, and give them out a portion; then they supply themselves when those are exhausted, unless they are very poor, and then sometimes coals are purchased for them.

By whom?—By me, and charged to the City, on being mentioned to the Sheriffs.

Have they, in point of fact, suffered this winter from cold?—No, they have not; all this winter I have had a supply of coals, which was set apart out of the four chaldrons, and I have given them some occasionally.

So that they have not suffered materially from cold?—No.

They have not had chilblains?—I have never heard of any of them having chilblains.

Do they all wear irons?—Yes.

What necessity do you find for irons?—From the indiscriminate intercourse of their friends, we feel it necessary to have a small iron on each, and we never take it off, unless on the doctor reporting it to be proper, in case of the state of the health requiring it.

Is there a pump in every yard?—Yes; and two in most of them, hard water and soft.

In your separation of prisoners, do you make any distinction between young and old felons, and misdemeanors?—In the present state of the prison we are not able to do that for want of more room; we shall have an opportunity of doing that after the debtors are removed to the new prison.

You have only persons charged for felony previous to trial?—No.

Convicts are never sent back to you?—No.

What

Mr. John Teague.

What is their allowance?—Ten ounces of bread a day, and six pounds of potatoes per week.

Have they no part of the seven stone of beef?—They have not, that is exclusively for the debtors.

If they were not supported by their friends, would they have nothing but these ten ounces of bread per day, and six pounds of potatoes per week?—No; if the surgeon sees that any man wants food, and has not the means of obtaining it, he has the power of ordering it.

In what manner are they enabled to exist on this short allowance?—By the assistance of their friends; they have friends with them all day long, and they assist one another.

If they had no friends, what would be the case?—They would be assisted by one another; they would not suffer one another to want.

In fact this allowance is quite inadequate to their support?—Yes; without the assistance of their friends, but which they have.

Is one of your punishments, in case there is any disorder in the prison, the shutting out the friends for a certain time?—I would do it to the felons. I have no rules and orders as to the felons; if they misbehave themselves I should exclude their friends for a short time.

Could you distinguish the friends of the person who had misbehaved, from those of the person who had not misbehaved?—Yes; the turnkeys could discover that, by knowing the persons they let in every day; they soon know who follows each.

It has never happened that you have excluded their friends?—Not unless they had been refractory, for a few hours or so; but it seldom happens.

At what hour are they locked up?—Eight o'clock at night.

At what hour in the morning are the cells opened?—Eight o'clock.

Do you mean winter and summer?—Yes; the debtors are unlocked at seven in the summer.

What is the longest period that a criminal prisoner stays in your custody?—From one session to another, sometimes a month, or at the utmost six weeks.

Are they allowed candles?—They are allowed the use of candles; they purchase them themselves.

Have you any regulations among them to enforce cleanliness?—We generally tell them we shall deprive them of their allowance of bread, if they will not keep themselves clean.

Do you see that the prison is cleaned every day?—I generally go as often as I can; I am obliged to attend the Magistrates every day from twelve o'clock.

Is there a person who sees that?—Yes.

Is it a rule with you not to give provisions to those who have not washed themselves?—That is held out as a threat in order to keep them clean, and generally has the effect.

Have you ever withheld from any one his provisions, for not cleaning himself?—No; I do not remember to have done it; the effect is produced by the threat, without carrying it into execution.

You have never felt any inconvenience in your prison, from the want of cleanliness?—No.

Do you ventilate your prison?—We have sufficient air without that; we have very good air.

What fee is paid by a prisoner, to be removed to the master's side?—Fourteen shillings and eight pence.

That is the whole of the fee he is obliged to pay to anybody?—Yes; he pays me 3*s.* 6*d.* a week, for which I find him bed, bedding, and sheets.

What number of bed rooms have you on the master's side?—I have six bed rooms.

How many are put into each room for this 3*s.* 6*d.*—We can put two in a room occasionally; I have not above three at this time on the master's side.

Are the remanded prisoners ironed?—No; unless there is a chance of their being remanded under commitment for several days, under charges of felony, then they are ironed, but not otherwise.

Have they any garnish amongst themselves?—They have amongst themselves, but I never interfere in it. When a prisoner is committed, he subscribes a bushel of coals to the common fire.

Is

Mr. John Teague.

Is that the same on the common side?—I believe it is, but I never interfere in it, unless a complaint is made to me; that is a custom amongst themselves, of which I never hear any complaints.

There is no ill treatment of each other, in order to enforce the payment of that?—No, by no means.

Has it ever happened in your prison, that a stranger visiting it has had his pocket picked?—Such a thing very rarely happens in our prison.

Do you know what means the prisoners take for the enforcement of the payment of garnish?—I believe only keeping them away from the fire, if they will not contribute towards it.

Is the allowance to the prisoners on the master's side, the same as on the other side?—Yes; ten ounces of bread per day, and six pounds of potatoes a week.

Have you frequently boys of a very tender age?—We have.

Are friends indiscriminately admitted to all the felons?—They are.

Of both sexes?—Yes, of both sexes during the daytime; none but what are prisoners are permitted to stay to sleep there.

The female friends of a felon on the common side, are permitted to visit him at any time, and to remain for any time?—Yes, till the afternoon or evening.

Are children ever allowed to remain all night with their parents?—We do not suffer it; though such a thing may have happened.

Has it frequently occurred?—It has very seldom occurred.

Is much work done amongst the felons?—Very little, if any; unless it is a shoemaker who works, we do not find a disposition in them to work.

What is the size of the yard on the master's side?—It is 35 feet square; there are two pumps in it, hard water and soft water.

Do you enforce the attendance of the criminal prisoners at chapel?—We do.

In what manner?—The turnkeys insist upon seeing them; unless they are ill they insist upon their going to chapel, and we enforce it as much as possible.

Supposing they do not choose to go, what would be done?—Then the turnkey would shut them up in their cell.

Do they ever refuse to go?—Very seldom; we generally get them all at chapel, and we never have the service omitted.

If you have a prisoner there of another persuasion, would you force him to go?—No, not a Catholic or a Jew; many of them go from choice, but of course we should not enforce that.

Do they behave well when they go there?—Yes.

Does the clergyman ever visit them singly and separately?—No; not unless required so to do.

Are ministers of other persuasions besides the chaplain, (Roman Catholics or Dissenters) allowed to visit the prisoners of their persuasion?—If they request it, we do not check it; we have no power of doing so.

They come as other friends?—Yes; just the same.

Is there any code of regulations among the criminal prisoners?—None.

How are they supplied with wine and beer?—They are supplied with beer by the same person who supplies the debtors, and wine if they require it.

Is there not a regular shop for wine, beer and tobacco, in the prison?—Not for wine. Wine is not sold in the prison; beer is by the turnkeys, in the way I have described; and they have a licence for tobacco, I believe.

Do they profit by the sale of beer and tobacco?—They are paid by the publican, but not by the prisoners. The publican is prohibited coming into the prison, and therefore finds it worth his while to pay the turnkey; and the prisoner receives it at the same price as he would if he was out of doors.

Is there the same regulation as to the tobacco as there is as to the beer?—Yes, there is.

Do you happen to know whether the turnkey is paid in proportion to the quantity sold, or a regular sum?—In proportion to the quantity sold.

Describe the part of the prison in which female criminals are confined?—In one of the lower yards; there are six cells and a day room.

Are the cells all of the same size?—Yes, about eight feet square.

Mr. John Teague.

Do you know the number of women you now have?—I have about three or four committed, not more on the Giltspur-street side; the women criminals of the two compters are together.

Describe the size of the day room?—The day room is the same as I have described, a long passage giving warmth to the whole of the cells through openings in the walls.

Does not it often happen that you have more women in the prison than that day room can conveniently hold?—More than that will accommodate at the fire; it is very small, and very narrow.

Is it very inconvenient?—Yes, it is, but it was done for the sole purpose of ventilating the cells; it is certainly very inconvenient to the women prisoners.

Is there any garnish amongst the women?—I know of none.

How are they provided with fire?—We give them occasionally some coals out of our stock, and the rest they must provide for themselves.

You give them the same proportion as you give to the others?—Yes.

Are not women who are committed for assaults and misdemeanors, and bastardy, and felony, all living together?—Yes, they are; we cannot alter that at present.

There is no fee for the discharge of any criminal from your prison?—No; only what are called the night charges; they are not discharged from us, in fact they go to Newgate for trial.

If they are discharged on a second examination, do they pay any fee?—Yes, they pay 3*s.* 6*d.* those who can afford it.

Is that paid to you?—Yes.

You consider that you have a right to demand it from all?—Yes, I consider that I have a right to demand it, but there is not one in three of whom I take it.

There is a fee of 14*s.* 8*d.* for every person committed for felony or assault, when bailed or discharged; in what cases is that paid?—When a person committed for felony is bailed before a Judge, or before an Alderman, he pays that fee of 14*s.* 8*d.* or when he is bailed on an assault, or if after full commitment he is discharged, but not otherwise.

Do you superintend the night charges now?—They are taken in at the Poultry compter; I have a servant under my directions who superintends them, and I attend the Magistrates every day with them to see them disposed of.

Describe the place in which they are kept in custody for the night?—There are two or three rooms left in the Poultry compter for them.

Is that under your direction?—No; it is in the old Poultry compter; Mr. Kirby can describe that better than I can.

The Ludgate prison is under you?—It is.

Have you an additional salary for that?—I have a salary of 100*l.* a year, as Keeper of Ludgate.

In addition to which there are also small fees?—Yes; one shilling when a person comes in, and two shillings when he goes out, and three-pence a week during confinement; which are paid by different charities if he is unable to pay them; there is scarcely a debtor goes out without some assistance.

So that no prisoner is detained for his fees?—No; in this prison debtors only are confined.

What description of debtors?—Debtors, being freemen of London, from the superior Courts, the Court of King's Bench, Common Pleas, the Exchequer, from the Lord Mayor's Court, and the Sheriff's Court; they are all freemen of the City of London, Attornies, Proctors and Clergymen.

Have you a common side and master's side here?—No; only one.

What is the size of the yard?—There is one yard which is 25 feet by 10.

What number of rooms are there?—That yard leads to eight rooms.

Capable of containing how many prisoners conveniently?—Four prisoners in each room.

In such cases are they not extremely crowded?—In such cases they are crowded.

What is the size of the room?—About 14 or 15 feet square, I should presume, and one room is twice that size, which is over the hall; the hall is used as a day room for all of them.

Mr. John Teague.

Have you frequently felt inconvenience, from the prison not being sufficiently large?—We have.

The hall is twice the size of the other rooms?—Yes; about twice the size.

Is the allowance to the prisoners here the same as in Giltspur-street compter?—The allowance is ten ounces of bread per day, six pounds of potatoes per week, and ten stone of meat weekly, supplied by the Lord Mayor.

The charities to this prison amount to 87*l.* per annum?—Yes, they do.

Are any beds furnished to the prison?—None.

Are the widows or daughters of freemen not sent to this prison?—The widows are, but not the daughters; we have one woman there now.

Have they a room to themselves?—Yes; they have a room set apart for themselves.

In the daytime they must associate with the men debtors if they go out?—Yes.

Is there a chapel?—Yes; and divine service is regularly performed. Dr. Rose is the chaplain.

Have they a set of rules and regulations of their own?—They have; they have seven persons elected quarterly, who are called the Court of Assistants; and they are empowered to put the rules into force among themselves: I preside when I am there; but if not, the steward presides.

He is one of themselves?—Yes.

Are not rugs allowed them?—Yes; they have four dozen of rugs a year.

Is distress ever felt for want of bedding?—No; they are generally a better class of men, who live in the City of London, and can send for bedding from their own houses; tradesmen mostly.

Is there any garnish?—There is 6*s.* which this Court of Assistants generally regulate amongst themselves.

Is liquor furnished to them under the same regulations as in the other parts of the prison?—Yes; there are no spirits allowed.

Is the court paved?—Yes.

Are there two pumps?—Yes; hard and soft water, and a bathing tub.

You say they make the regulations themselves?—The Steward and Court of Assistants put the rules and orders into force, such as were made by the Aldermen and the Judges.

Are those hung up?—They are painted on a board stuck up in the yard, so that every one can read them.

In the two prisons you have described, are the sewers ever offensive?—No; they go into the common sewer, and the quantity of water daily used in the washing, keeps them clean.

They are never offensive?—No; the City of London have laid on, within this last month, the New River water to every yard; we had only the Thames before, with the hard water; now we shall never be without water; the tanks will be always full.

Except from want of room, you know of no inconvenience?—I know of none; and we should have had room, but for the prisoners of the Poultry compter being removed to Giltspur-street compter; the giving them part of that room they occupied was determined upon by the Court, but not given in consequence of that taking place.

Do you understand it to be part of the plan of the City of London to convert the prisons of Giltspur-street, the Poultry, and Ludgate, into a house of correction, as soon as the new prison is ready to receive the debtors?—Yes; that is by the Act of Parliament which empowers the building of the new prison; and by that, immediately after the removal of the debtors, it converts the other prisons into a house of correction for the City of London.

Do you conceive, that by dividing the felons into a number of small cells, you are enabled to keep them in better order than if they slept together in large rooms?—Unquestionably.

Mr. *Edward Kirby*, called in, and Examined.

Mr. Edward Kirby.

You are the keeper of the Poultry compter?—Yes.

With what salary?—My salary is 280 *l.* a year.

With the addition of fees?—Yes.

Out of which you keep a number of servants?—Yes, and pay their salaries.

What number of servants do you keep?—I have three at present; sometimes four are necessary.

What deduction does that make from your salary?—I suppose about 150 *l.* a year.

Without the addition of fees, you would consider your salary to be inadequate?—Quite so.

Can you give a rough estimate of what the amount of fees in the course of the year is?—I should think they might amount to about 250 *l.* a year.

The prisoners under your charge are now lodged in part of the Giltspur-street compter?—Yes.

The men are kept distinctly, and the women with the females committed to the Giltspur-street compter?—Yes.

Are the allowances to the prisoners under your charge the same as to those under the charge of Mr. Teague?—Exactly so.

Upon the average, is the number of prisoners under your charge, nearly the same as those under his?—Nearly so; there is very little difference.

Have you any code of regulations within your prison?—We regulate the Poultry prisoners by the rules and orders of the Giltspur-street prison; since I have been removed there, I have always adopted them.

In what manner are the charities distributed?—They have auditors amongst themselves, and the money is laid out in the purchase of coals and other necessaries; if there is any overplus for the quarter, they divide it among themselves.

By whom were the fees settled?—I do not know; it was long before I was keeper of the compter.

By whom is the money paid for the use of your prisoners?—One of the servants of the compter goes round to collect the different money. I am answerable to the coal merchant, for the payment of the bill for coals; that is paid every quarter; and if there is any overplus, it is given to the steward of the prison.

In fact the money never goes out of your hand into that of any of the debtors?—After paying the coal merchant, whom I am answerable to see paid, or he would not serve them with coals, it is then, if there is any overplus, given to the steward.

Is a list of the charities hung up in that part of the prison?—Yes.

How is the steward appointed?—By themselves.

You shew to the steward the bill from the coal merchant; his receipt for the money you have paid him; and then the balance from the collection of the charities is paid into the hands of the steward, to be distributed amongst the prisoners?—Yes; the coal merchant, and the steward and parties, are all together when it is settled.

Nothing else is found out of the charity money but coals?—Chiefly coals; they consume a great quantity.

Do you blend the charity money and the allowance together?—No.

To what do the charities amount?—About 75 *l.* a year.

You know of no distinction in the mode of management from that adopted by Mr. Teague?—None whatever.

In what manner do you punish refractory debtors or felons?—They generally conduct themselves very well; we have seldom had occasion to punish them.

Have you any regulations to direct you in such a case?—Yes; there are regulations for the Giltspur-street compter, and I abide by them.

There are no rules particularly for the Poultry compter?—No.

Are you the keeper of the old Poultry compter?—I live at the old Poultry compter.

What description of prisoners are ever committed there?—The persons who are taken up in the course of the night disorderly, on charges of felony, and assaults and drunkenness, and other disorders.

Mr. Edward Kirby.

Do they ever remain there longer than one night?—Never.

If they should not be bailed, what would be done?—They go up to the Giltspur-street compter.

What number, upon the average, sleep there every night?—Sometimes we have not above two, sometimes none; sometimes there may be twenty; it is quite uncertain.

On Lord Mayor's day, or in the time of Bartholomew Fair, you have a good many?—Yes.

Upon the average have you ten or twelve?—No.

Where do they sleep?—The chapel is appropriated for the men, and the room formerly the office, for the women.

Are those the only rooms you have?—No, we have rooms up stairs; if any decent persons come in, there are rooms where there are beds for them.

Do they pay extra for that accommodation?—Yes.

In what sleeping rooms do the common prisoners sleep?—The men occupy the chapel, and the women a room which was formerly an office.

Do you mean by the chapel a large room with windows without any glass?—Yes.

Are there no beds?—No.

There is no fire-place?—No.

Is that in cold weather, very cold?—It is certainly very cold.

What sum of money do they pay for the accommodation to which you have alluded, up stairs?—If they have a bed they pay 2*s.*

Two shillings a night?—They are seldom there more than one night; if they should remain longer than one night in custody, they are removed up to Giltspur-street compter, and being considered as remaining in the same custody, they then pay but one shilling per night.

If a prisoner is discharged, does he pay any fee?—We are entitled to a fee.

How much?—3*s.* 6*d.*

If he is discharged by a magistrate?—Yes.

The old Poultry compter now is little more than a watchhouse?—No more.

They are taken before the Lord Mayor or the Sitting Magistrate every morning?—Yes, they are.

There is no other fee but 3*s.* 6*d.*?—Not for that description of persons.

Do you mean to state, that when they are removed to Giltspur-street compter, each prisoner pays one shilling a night every night he remains there?—If he chooses to be accommodated with a bed; if he chooses to go on the common side he has the benefit of a rug and a straw mattress.

That is before committal?—Yes.

You have a nightly attendance at the Poultry compter, to receive charges?—Yes; a man sits up every night.

Is liquor furnished to the people committed to the Poultry compter?—They may have porter from a public house in the court if they please; we do not allow any spirits.

This old building is no longer to be retained as a prison by the City of London after the new prison for debtors is completed?—No; so I understand.

What number of women have you in the new Poultry compter now?—I have only one woman debtor; two women committed for trial for felony, and one woman who stands indicted for an assault, and another committed for an assault.

Lunæ, 4° *die Aprilis* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

Mr. *William Hutcheson Box*, called in, and Examined.

Mr. *W. Hutcheson Box.*

YOU are the surgeon of Newgate ?—I am.

By whom appointed ?—By the Magistrates of the City of London.

At what salary ?—150*l.* a year.

For that salary do you find medicines?—No; the medicines are paid for separately.

Are medicines to a sufficient quantity found by the City ?—I find medicines, and charge by bills to the City; they are paid for quarterly.

What part of Newgate is appropriated to the Sick ?—There are three infirmaries; one on the men felons side, one on the women's side with a convalescent ward attached, and one on the debtors side.

Has either that on the debtors side, or that on the men felons side, a recovery ward attached to it?—No, there is no recovery ward; but a room is always set apart on the men felons side in case of necessity.

Is the want of a recovery ward much felt ?—No, I never felt the necessity of it but once; and then I had one immediately.

Is there any infirmary for the women debtors ?—None.

In what manner are they provided for when sick ?—The women debtors are so few in number, that it seldom happens there are any sick; sometimes there may be one, but seldom more.

She then remains with the other women debtors ?—Yes, she does.

Do you keep any book in which the incidents of the prison, as relating to sickness, are entered ?—There is a book kept at the prison, for the information of the Magistrates, of every person who is ill, and every person who dies in the prison; I likewise keep a regular book of every person that I attend, and prescribe for.

Is that book submitted occasionally to the Magistrates ?—The state of the health of the prison is submitted every Court of Aldermen, by me to the Sheriffs, and by the Sheriffs to the Court of Aldermen.

Do you see all the prisoners occasionally, or only such as are sick and complain ?—There is a man whose business it is to go round the prison every morning, and see every person in the prison; and any that are ailing are immediately removed from the rest to the infirmary; and there I see them between the hours of ten and three in the day.

Is that man a medical man, or only a servant of the prison ?—He is a man picked out from among the felons, generally a man that has been tolerably brought up; and we have had men who have been brought up to the medical profession for years; he is generally a transport.

What precautions are taken upon the admission of any prisoner, that he does not introduce any infectious disorder into the prison ?—All prisoners coming from the different gaols on the moving day come with a certificate from the surgeon of that prison, that they are free from infectious disorders; The prisoners whom Magistrates commit, must be taken to the prison, whether they are ill or well, when they are committed from the public offices.

If they are found to be ill, are they sent to the infirmary ?—Yes, they are taken immediately to the infirmary.

Upon the prisoners coming into the gaol, are they, without medical examination, at once mingled with the other prisoners ?—No; if there is any thing the matter with them, they are immediately taken to the infirmary.

Are they examined each as they come in ?—No; they are not moved to the mass of prisoners, because there is a side prison called the Chapel Yard, particularly appointed for those people who are for trial.

Mr. W. Hutcheson Box.

Is there any place in which prisoners are put on their first arrival into the prison, till they have been seen by the medical man, and before they are put into the part of the prison in which they are to be ultimately confined?—No, there is no such place.

Have you a warm and a cold bath in the prison?—Both.

How frequently are the walls of the prison scraped and white-washed?—They are done more frequently than the order for their being done requires, according as it is necessary. The prison is completely scraped and white-washed at least once in the year; sometimes oftener; the floors are cleaned every day; I see to that: the scraping and white-washing would be done oftener, but I am obliged to order it not to be done in the winter time, because the damp produces bad effects upon the prisoners health; they are done quite as often as is necessary.

What bedding have they in the infirmary?—They have quite sufficient bedding; I have an unlimited permission to require bedding from the Committee of the City Lands as often as I think proper, and all other necessaries.

Have you any calculation of the number Newgate will hold?—It ought not to hold more than 500 at the utmost, I think.

Have you fears of infectious disorders when there is a greater number than that?—It is always to be suspected, certainly.

From that fear were part of the prisoners at the beginning of this year removed into the chapel?—Yes, they were, from the debtors side.

With the addition of the chapel, how many do you think the prison will safely hold?—The answer I gave to the previous question refers to that; the chapel only answered as a dormitory: they did not use it in the daytime; I do not think the prison ought to hold more than 500.

Are you acquainted with that room in which the boys are now kept separately from the other prisoners?—That is only a room in the chapel yard; I am acquainted with every room in the prison.

Is that room so small as to be dangerous to those that are in it?—No, I do not think it is; it is in an airy part of the prison; it stands in a good aspect.

Do illnesses ever arise from want of provisions?—No, certainly not of late years; not for many years past.

Do you order the provisions given to the people in the infirmary?—Yes; I have an unlimited permission from the Magistrates to order what I please for the sick.

Have you known illnesses to arise or to be increased from the want of room?—Undoubtedly; in the last year, 1813, certainly the prison was in a very crowded state, and illness did increase in proportion; but I do not mean to say that all the illness was from the crowded state of the prison, because, when 200 were added to between 5 and 600, it consequently happened that the 200 would have their share of the illness and casualties, as well as the rest.

Was the proportion of illness greater?—The proportion of illness was rather greater; the deaths were more numerous.

Are chilblains a common disorder in the prison?—No; I saw two or three cases the last winter.

What are the diseases to which the prisoners are most subject?—There is one disorder which seldom does well in this or any other prison; I refer to pulmonary affections; they generally go on the worst.

Have you known many instances of the itch prevailing in the prison?—A great many.

Is the person affected with the itch, put separately from the others immediately? Not unless it is a bad case; for the very instant the remedy is applied, if it is done properly, it ceases to be infectious; and that is done under the inspection of the ward man or woman.

In case a female debtor is afflicted with an infectious disorder, can you remove her immediately?—I never had but one instance of it since I have been in the prison; and then I was obliged to remove her to the felons infirmary by the permission of the Magistrates.

Is it a common practice among the prisoners to sham complaints, for the sake of getting into the infirmary?—They will do it sometimes if they can.

Do you know what is the object they have in view in shamming complaints?—Because they have certainly more comforts in the infirmary than they have in the wards.

Mr. W. Hutcheson Box.

What sort of bedding have they?—They have iron bedsteads with ticking and flock mattresses; sheets; very good blankets and rugs, and plenty of covering.

Do any disorders besides the pulmonary complaint, prevail more in Newgate than in other places?—I do not mean to say that the pulmonary complaints prevail more in Newgate, but that they are more difficult to cure; and that there are more deaths from that than other causes; many come in with old cases of asthma, and affections of the lungs.

When was the last case of an infectious fever in Newgate?—In the year 1801, the year before I was appointed. A typhus fever was prevalent in Newgate, from the time of its erection down to 1802; and in 1801 forty-five died.

Have any alterations taken place in the management of the prisoners affected with infectious fever, since 1802?—Yes; I have made alterations, with the permission of the Court of Aldermen, in the year 1802; and since that time not one has died of an infectious complaint in Newgate; that to which I have referred in 1801 and 1802, was a mixed case of typhus fever, with influenza; it was partly before my time and partly at the commencement of my time. I came in in April 1802; taking the average of deaths for the last four years, including the heaviest year, which was 1813, it has been nine; it has never exceeded fifteen, since the year 1801.

Do you observe whether the prisoners in general are cleanly in their persons?—Yes, I think they are, in general.

Do you observe, that illnesses arise from the want of cleanliness among them? No; I do not.

What is the general nature of the illnesses, of which the nine upon the average have died?—Mostly, last year, pulmonary complaints; there were two cases of mortification, and the rest old pulmonary cases: Several Lascars were brought in there in a wretched state of health, and from change of climate became worse, and died of pulmonary consumption; this return of deaths I have referred to, includes debtors as well as felons.

Are any fees attached to the office of surgeon?—Not any of any kind.

You have what supply of medicines you require?—Yes; I order what medicines I think proper from Apothecaries Hall; I prescribe, and my assistant mixes them up; one professional man could not get through the duties of the prison.

Do you visit the prison every day?—Either myself or my assistant attends every day, and sometimes three or four times a day, and sometimes two or three times in the night too.

Is there any matron to the female infirmary?—It is conducted on the same plan that the male infirmary is; there is a decent woman picked out from among the prisoners as the nurse of the sick ward, and under her there is an helper, and she has the management of the sick ward and the convalescent ward.

Who pays them for their trouble?—They are not exactly paid; they have a trifling allowance from the Court of Aldermen; and they have an allowance of victuals, and a pint of porter and a pint of milk each, per day.

They are prisoners?—Yes.

In the men's infirmary does a man take care of them?—Yes; it would be impossible, amongst such a set, to have women to attend them; there are two men to the men's infirmary, a wardsman and a helper.

The Reverend *Brownlow Ford*, LL.D. called in, and Examined.

Rev. Brownlow Ford, LL.D.

YOU are the Ordinary of Newgate?—I am.

How long have you been in that situation?—Sixteen years in February last.

By whom were you appointed?—By the Court of Aldermen.

With what salary?—Two hundred pounds per annum, with frequent gratuities from the City of London; and I have a residence also provided.

What is the extent of the gratuities?—Two freedoms at each quarter, which bring 50 *l.*

And one or two small legacies?—10 *l.* a year from Bartholomew's Hospital, and 1 *l.* 16 *s.* every half year from the Secondaries Office.

What are the duties attached to your office?—On Sunday, prayers and a

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sermon in the chapel; on Wednesday and Friday prayers only without a sermon in the chapel; on Tuesday and Thursday I attend the condemned prisoners, who also attend in the chapel, if they are of the Established Church; and when the order comes down for the execution, I attend them regularly every day till that unfortunate event takes place.

Would the Church service be better performed if you had a clerk to assist you?—I often think it would, and have frequently applied for that purpose; sometimes per chance I get a prisoner in the condemned pew immediately under the desk who is able to read and has been in the habit of attending Church, and then I do not need one; but frequently I have a whole pew full of condemned prisoners, not one of whom is able to read, and in that case the whole service is apt to be thrown into confusion; for those who have not been in the habit of attending service do not know when to sit, or when to kneel, or what to do, and a clerk would be a sort of fugleman to shew them what they were to do.

To whom have you made application for a clerk?—Frequently to the Sheriffs, and sometimes to Mr. Newman.

Did you ever make application to the Court of Aldermen?—I cannot say that I ever did, because in general they have business enough to do, and I thought it was starting a thing that would interfere with business of more consequence; but the Sheriffs being frequently there, I thought they might at a convenient time represent it to the Court of Aldermen.

Does the keeper attend the chapel?—No.

Do the turnkeys?—Always in the lower part of the chapel, and in the women felons gallery; there is no turnkey ever attends in the debtors gallery; we have two turnkeys in the lower part of the chapel, one in the women's gallery.

Generally speaking, is the congregation orderly?—In general they are not, and those who would be orderly are frequently teazed and laughed at by others; the gatesmen are generally upon the alert to keep them within bounds; but still while they are speaking to one, another is laughing or yawning or coughing, to impede the going on of the service.

Do you think the presence of the keeper would be likely to create more order in the chapel?—Really, the experiment being never tried, I cannot tell. I have proposed to the keeper having a pew, with an entrance into it from his own house, to be on one side of the pulpit, which would give him a superior view of the place, and enable him to see how they conducted themselves; and if there was an eye of that kind over them, I have no doubt they would be more orderly, but it is not to be expected from the nature of the people there that they will be more orderly; for while the gatesman is talking to one, twenty more will be laughing together in another part of the chapel.

Is the chapel divided into partitions, or are they all on benches on the floor?—They all sit now; the centre part of the chapel under the desk is the condemned pew, and there are seats for the other descriptions of prisoners.

In the body of the chapel do the prisoners sit in the different classes into which they are divided in the prison?—There are but two pews, besides the condemned pew, but they are in seats like the seats in the gallery of a theatre, rising one above another, one for the master's side and one for the chapel yard, but the centre part is wainscotted in, and the condemned prisoners under sentence of death are there detached from all the others.

Do you ever find any inconvenience from the chapel being too crowded?—Except we have a condemned sermon, never: There is no compulsion on any but the condemned prisoners, and not upon them, unless they declare themselves to be of the Established Church; when there are any Roman Catholics they are attended by a priest of that church, and when there are any foreigners, Portuguese, Spaniards, or so on, I find a clergyman to attend them during their confinement there.

Do you suppose there is no occasion for enlarging the chapel?—No; it is entirely voluntary with all the prisoners whether they will come in or not; when the weather is severe, and they are very badly clothed and shivering with the cold, they will not come in; perhaps it is snowing, perhaps it is raining, and there is no fire in the chapel, and it is very lofty and cold.

On the last Sunday of the seven condemned prisoners, did more than three attend

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attend the chapel?—Only three attended the chapel; it was told me that three out of the four who absented themselves were dissenters, and one of them a Catholic; on enquiry, I found that was partly true and partly not; one was a Catholic, who was attended by Mr. Devereux a Catholic clergyman, but that the other three had only made that an excuse, to escape their being exposed by going into the chapel.

Are the condemned prisoners in the chapel exposed to public view?—In the very centre of the chapel, the pew is very wide, and there stands a table, and upon this occasion of a condemned sermon, there is a black cloth covering the table entirely over, and upon that a black coffin.

Do you generally find the condemned prisoners to be very averse to such an exposure?—Always; unless perchance there are some of them that are very hardened, and they do not care whether they are exposed or not; but those who have been in a better situation of life, and those brought there for a first offence, would rather be executed over and over again if it were possible, than be exposed in that manner.

Do you apprehend it frequently happens that a condemned prisoner who is religiously disposed, keeps away from chapel from the fear of being so exposed?—I am very sure of it; and there are a hundred schemes tried in order to avoid it, except by those who are hardened.

You state that you attend the prison daily; were you not therefore informed whether the persons who did not attend the chapel were dissenters or not, previously to that Sunday?—I have no connection with any of the prisoners, but those under sentence of death; I knew nothing of their being dissenters till the Sunday, when I entered into the chapel; and when I entered into the desk, and saw but three men before me, I called to the head turnkey in the chapel, to know the reason the other four were not there; I waited with my watch in my hand fifteen minutes for his return; I thought I ought not to keep the congregation any longer, and as I went out, I found Mr. Newman waiting to inform me, that there were three dissenters and one Catholic.

Were they in fact not dissenters?—He told me so on the Monday.

Had you not seen them on the Saturday prior to the Sunday, so that you could thereby have ascertained whether they were dissenters or not?—No; the report of their execution did not come down to us till ten or half past ten at night, at which time all the prisoners were locked up; I was expecting all the evening to have the report sent in; I was upon the very verge of going to bed when it came down; but if I had gone to the gaol I could not have seen them, for they were locked up.

Do you see none of the prisoners but those who are reported and sentenced to death?—None, excepting they choose to come into the chapel; sometimes we have the chapel crowded, and sometimes there will not be a soul, but those who are under sentence of death.

Do you ever find any other prisoners, except those under sentence of execution, send for you for private conversation?—Never; unless they are attacked with a disorder, and think they are on the point of dying; I am with the condemned prisoners every day after the report comes.

Previous to the report, if any prisoner were to send to you for private instruction, you would go to him?—Constantly; I have nothing else to do; but they never think any thing of their prayers till the warrant for their execution comes.

You do not consider it to be your duty to attend even the Condemned, without being sent for prior to the report being brought?—Yes, I attend to them every Tuesday, and every Thursday; I am entirely with them in the room called the Condemned Room.

Then did you not ascertain prior to the report, having been with those prisoners who were executed last week in the room you have mentioned, that those three were of the Established Church, and not dissenters?—Never; the first question I put to these people after they are convicted, is generally, indeed always, the day after they are sent in, as convicted from the foregoing Sessions: "What religion are you of?" The majority of them say, "Of the Church of England." "Very well: Have you been in the habit of frequenting any clergyman in the former part of your life, who resides in or near London?" "No, Sir:"

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"Because if you have, and do not choose to be attended by me, I will get you some one you have some acquaintance with." That is generally refused; they say, we are very well satisfied. "I say, are there any dissenters?" one says, "I am a Catholic; and I am a Catholic." "Very well; I will let Mr. Devereux know, and he shall attend you." But it is very seldom I meet with any dissenters; I can take upon myself to say, I never met with many dissenters; at least they keep it to themselves if they are.

Are dissenting ministers admitted to the prisoners, on any other ground than the prisoners own request?—Yes; sometimes we are haunted by ministers, who come, I dare say, with very good intentions, but they are a very great grievance to the prisoners who are not so inclined; they are always for preaching and talking, and so forth; I have applied to the Gaol Committee to make some restriction. It should not be expected of those people, with their habits, that they should be always crammed with preaching and prayers; they do not like it. I have known some of these men come to those men who are in better circumstances than the rest, and eat up their mutton chop and drink up their beer, and then go to prayers, and go away; and they would not come when that was not the case. I have known a prisoner very much harassed by a man, the owner of a lighter in the river Thames, who comes in raggedly dressed, to expound the Scriptures.

Do you conceive they are ever admitted, except on the prisoner's own request?—O dear, yes.

They come to the condemned prisoners?—Yes; they never think of any others but them.

Do you conceive they preach to the prisoners when the prisoners wish them absent?—The prisoners are in a very awkward predicament; for they think that their request will go for nothing, and that it is better to submit to it; and some brought them some money in the last instance; and they submit to it, in the hopes that one will bring a loaf under his coat, or another bread and cheese, or another some money; but if they were to come in on the religious matters only, I believe they would shut the doors against them; at least so they say to me.

Are those persons Methodist Preachers?—Yes; Methodist Preachers, and clergymen who affect to be methodistical preachers.

When you were appointed by the Court of Aldermen, were any written instructions, as to your duty, given to you?—Yes.

Produce them. [*The Witness produced them.*]

You never make any reports to the Corporation, of the state of morals in the gaol?—I know nothing of the state of morals.

Do you ever see any of the prisoners but the condemned prisoners?—No; except those that choose to go to chapel. When I have been going through to the chapel, those who have been playing at their ball or games in the yard are turned in whilst I go through, and are locked up whilst the chapel service goes on, lest they should disturb the worship.

Do you mean, that no felon, but one under sentence of death, has ever sent to you for instruction or consolation?—Never once; unless when they have been very ill, and under the fear of death.

Do you happen to know, that there are nine or ten boys of a tender age now in Newgate?—I saw them in the chapel yesterday.

You do not consider their instruction a part of your duty?—Not at all, because the time there, is so exceedingly short. If it was a house calculated for reformation, and so on, it might be different, but they are here to day and gone to-morrow.

Do none of the prisoners receive the sacrament?—Never, till they are going to die. I have, for three months in succession, set forth to the best of my ability, the necessity for their receiving the sacrament, though they were not under sentence of death; and I have desired those who would receive the sacrament, to give in their names, and I never had one name given in since ever I have been in that place. I never could induce them by any means: when I have seen some, who seemed more religious than others, I have said, Here are these men, who will receive the sacrament the day before their execution, will you join them? and they have always negatived it.

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Have you ever taken any note of the proportion of felons condemned to death who can read or write?—No, never. I once had twelve people in the condemned pew, as respectably dressed men, to all appearance, as need to be; I should not have been ashamed to sit down with them at a public table; and there was not one of them who knew how to open a book, or look for a letter.

Do you ever attend the infirmary without being sent for by the prisoners themselves?—No; it would be a great inconvenience, if I were to take upon myself to break through the rules of the prison, by going here or there at the hours that I was not expected, for the keepers are on different duty at different hours of the day, and there would be nobody to attend; they are all busy, cleaning yards or wards, or so on.

You say, none receive the sacrament but those under sentence of death?—Yes; and when they expect to die in the course of the week.

Is there not a vestry-room at your service?—Yes.

In what manner do you use that?—It is a place in which the books lie for the service of the prisoners, and where the surplice is kept; and when the weather is very cold, I take the condemned prisoners into that place rather than across the yard to a cold chapel, and in order to keep them from the crowd.

Are you often called to the Sick?—Very seldom; I never know there have been any sick till I get a warning to attend their funeral.

When you have been sent for to attend the sick, have you constantly gone?—Constantly; for the last ten years I have not been half a mile from the Ordinary's house.

Do the debtors frequently attend?—On days of curiosity they do.

Do you not consider it part of your duty to attend the sick without being sent for?—I do not know that they are sick until I get notice of it.

Do not you think it part of your duty to attend the infirmary?—It was never represented to me as such; and it is not in the instructions which I received; moreover, those who are there are not always sick.

In the chapel are the women seen from the pew of the men?—Oh, dear, yes, there is no concealment at all; it is an open gallery at each end of the chapel.

Does their being so exposed add to the disorders which take place among the congregation?—Not during the service, unless in a few particular instances; but the very moment they come into the gallery, there is a dreadful row, hallooing and hooping, and calling to their old acquaintance, to know who are in the bottom of the chapel; when I go in it is all quiet, but the moment the blessing is given at the end, it is all talk again.

The men to the women?—Yes; "How do you do, Sall?" and so on. Many of them have been old acquaintances, and some of them in the same indictments, but separated on account of their sex.

The chapel was used for some time lately for part of the debtors?—Yes; the debtors side of the prison was over-crowded; and they had no other means of accommodating them to sleep, but by turning them in there.

How long was the chapel so used?—I should say ten or eleven weeks, more or less.

Was it necessary to discontinue divine service during all that time?—All the places where they sit were covered with platforms for their beds. I tried it once, but could not get a dozen people in, and they were obliged to stand: they grumbled very much at it, and I was obliged to give it up. It was a sort of raised stage over the seats, and there were sixty slept there every night.

Since that has been abated, has the service been renewed?—Yes; for the last month or five weeks. I always mark my duty in my pocket-book.

Does not one of the Sheriffs sometimes attend the performance of divine service there?—I cannot say that they do. Some have been very assiduous in their duty, and some are shocked with the appearance of things.

At the time when they have attended, have the prisoners behaved in a more orderly manner?—They are always quiet enough while the service is going on: it is at their coming in, and after the service, that the disorder takes place; they very seldom interrupt the service. They are such a hardened set, that instead of two turnkeys, they would in general require ten. I have sometimes been obliged to get up and point out the person to the turnkey, and he has been taken out of the chapel immediately.

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In general they are orderly during service?—Yes; I tell them there is no compulsion upon them to come there; if they do not choose to behave properly during the time of divine service, they may stay away; but if they come there, they must behave according to the custom of the place; and that, if they have not been used to attend any where, they had better be instructed by others before they come.

Do you remember any instance of a person being punished for misbehaviour at chapel?—Several times; they have been put into solitary confinement for three or four hours.

On your complaint?—No; the gatesman has detected them while my eye has been upon the book. It is not many years since a man had the audacity to ease himself within a very few yards of me; and I offered a guinea to any one who would inform me who it was, and no one would give information: they durst not, I suppose.

Have you ever made a formal complaint of the conduct of any of the prisoners attending the chapel?—To the turnkeys I have very often had occasion to do it. When I have come to the end of a prayer, and have heard a laughing or talking at my left hand, I have beckoned to the turnkey, and directed his attention to the spot.

Mr. *John Law,* called in, and Examined.

Mr. John Law.

YOU are the keeper of the Borough compter?—Yes.

Keeper or deputy keeper?—Under-keeper.

Who is your superior?—Sir Watkin Lewes.

By whom was you appointed?—By Sir Watkin Lewes.

Do you happen to know by whom Sir Watkin Lewes was appointed?—By the City of London, I presume.

He holds this office as being Bailiff of the Borough?—Yes.

What salary do you receive?—I receive no salary.

What advantages arise to you from being Keeper of this compter?—Living rent free, and bread.

To what amount is bread allowed to you?—There is no quantity particularly; we take in sufficient for the family at my house.

Are you, as keeper of the prison, allowed an unlimited quantity of bread?—Yes, for my own family.

For yourself, or for the prisoners?—For the prisoners, and for myself also.

What is your agreement with Sir Watkin Lewes?—As to the bread, there was nothing said about it; but it was the custom to take in sufficient for the family as well as the prisoners.

To what amount do you take in for each prisoner?—No more than a twopenny loaf a day.

In addition to that, you have a supply for yourself?—Yes.

Upon the average, how many loaves do you take for yourself?—My family consumes about eight quarterns per week, sometimes more; I cannot exactly say the number.

Of how many does your family consist?—It consists at present of six children, myself, and my wife; a servant maid, and a servant a turnkey.

How long have you been in this situation?—Five years next September.

Is the bread, and the living rent free, all the advantage you derive from being keeper of the prison?—I have 2*s.* occasionally, but not above once a month; I am an officer of the Court of Requests as well, and that, together with this, compensate me.

You have no fees as keeper of this prison?—Yes; I have delivered a list of them.

Do you receive any fees as Under-keeper of the Borough compter?—When they are discharged from the Borough court, there is 10*s.* 10*d.* but I believe that has not been above three or four times since my appointment, there are so few of them: from the Court of Requests there are no fees.

What is the situation you hold in the Court of Requests?—An officer, to serve the processes, attachments, and so on.

Who nominated you?—Sir Watkin Lewes.

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Mr. John Law.

Do you receive any fees on the discharge of debtors from this compter?—Only the 10*s.* 10*d.* which I believe I never received from above three, that is from the Borough Court debtors; indeed I have given it up, if they have not been enabled to pay it.

What description of prisoners are committed to your charge?—From the Court of Requests principally, and occasionally one or two from the Borough Court of Southwark.

Have you any night charges?—Occasionally, but very seldom; I do not know that I have had any for this month.

Do they pay any fees?—Two shillings we generally demand of them, if they have the power of paying it, but they frequently do not pay it, not having the ability.

You consider yourself at liberty to charge them 2 *s.* ?—Yes; according to the table of fees.

What is the greatest number of debtors you have had at any one time?—About three or four and thirty.

What number have you at present?—We have eleven from the Court of Requests, and one from the Borough Court.

Are they kept together?—No; one poor man is in my house; he attends the key, I expect he will be released soon, I give him his provisions.

What number of children besides prisoners, have you within the gaol?—There may probably be about twenty, some have five or six, and some none at all.

What proportion of the eleven debtors, are women?—There is only one woman.

Is she kept separately from the others?—Yes; she goes occasionally in the daytime and sits and works with them, she is an elderly woman.

Is it the common custom of the prison, for men and women to sit together in the daytime?—No, not when there are many women, they generally sit together; this woman is a debtor.

Is there more than one yard?—There are two yards, one for felons, and the other for debtors.

Are there separate yards for the men and women sides?—No.

Have you any surgeon belonging to this prison, who visits it?—No; I apply to the parish when there are any unwell, and they send their doctor to attend.

Do you mean that the women keep themselves separate voluntarily, the men having free passage into their rooms?—Yes; there are wards exclusively for the women, as separate from the men.

Is it the rule of the prison that the men and the women shall not associate together, or do they voluntarily not associate together?—They do occasionally associate together; there is only one yard, so that they must in a measure.

Is any room set apart for those that are sick?—No; we have so few sick, that it has not appeared necessary; they have only colds, or things that go off in general.

Have you any clergyman who performs divine service in the prison?—No.

Is it possible for the men to get into the sleeping wards of the women?—I cannot say that it is impossible.

Is any thing done to prevent them, if the parties consent?—No; but if I knew of any loose characters, I should lock them in.

They are not locked up of a night?—No; they must come out of their wards to go to their water closets.

Describe that part of the prison appropriated to debtors?—There is a yard of 19 feet square, with one room on the right and one on the left hand.

To what is the room on the right appropriated?—To the women; it is called, the Women's Ward.

Of what size is it?—It is a high room about 24 feet long, by from 9 to 12 feet wide.

Is the left hand room for men?—Yes, it is.

How big is it?—The room the men occupy is about 20 feet long, but there is a ward before you get to that, which I make no use of but for those that work, such as coopers, with the floor torn up; it was so previously to my appointment.

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Is there a floor to the room in which the men sit?—Yes.

Are those two rooms the only rooms the men debtors have?—No; they sleep up stairs; one part of the ward is appropriated for them to sleep in; they have a piece of timber for a bolster.

The men do not sit down stairs?—Some of them do; they select themselves some from each other; some are not so clean as others.

When the men sit down stairs, they sit in the room within the other, and not in that without a floor?—Yes, they sit a few of them in that, three or four.

Is there any glass in the windows of the lower rooms?—The City of London have lately sent to have them repaired, but till lately they have been very much out of repair; they have been patched up with oiled paper.

During the greater part of the winter they were broken?—Yes; but the prisoners have repaired them with paper and oil.

How long ago did the City of London send to have them repaired?—They sent last Saturday.

There is only one woman who sleeps in the women's ward?—She and her daughter.

How old is her daughter?—She appears to be about two-and-twenty.

From the broken glass, and the size of the rooms, is it not extremely cold in cold weather?—Yes; but it is generally mended in cold weather with oiled paper.

How long have they been without glass?—They have been broken by the prisoners a twelvemonth or more, by their playing at ball.

Have they not been without glass ever since you have been there?—I think two years ago the City of London put the windows in thorough repair.

Describe what other rooms you have, besides those two on the ground floor?—There are two up stairs, one leading into the other, on a similar plan to those below; only those up stairs have a floor of course.

Those rooms up stairs are fitted up with a barrack bedstead?—They have no bedsteads.

Have they what you call a barrack, an inclined plane?—They have nothing more than the floor and a piece of square timber to make a bolster; the floor is made rather rising.

How many are you capable of accommodating in those rooms?—Were they in repair, I suppose we might accommodate 60 or 80 probably, in the four rooms.

Exclusive of the women's room?—No, not exclusive of the women's ward.

How many, exclusive of the women's room?—Probably sixty.

That is including the room without a floor?—Yes.

What is the average number of prisoners who have been confined in this gaol daily in the five years you have known it?—I should conclude from 20 to 25.

So that you have never had occasion, since you have been keeper of the prison, to occupy that room which is without a floor as a bedroom?—No.

When you say out of repair, do you mean to refer to want of glass in the windows?—No; there want the carpenters, and the bricklayers, and the painters.

Does the rain come in?—No.

What number of fire places have you?—Four.

Are coals allowed?—No; the Sheriffs, about two years ago, sent in two chaldron and a half.

How long did they last?—They lasted, I believe, ten weeks or three months.

Since that you have had no supply whatever?—No; except a few sacks that Sir Watkin has told me occasionally to get.

This last winter had you no supply from any where?—No.

Are any kettles or saucepans allowed?—There were some furnished by order of Mr. Nield, the treasurer of the Benevolent Society.

As private charity?—Yes.

Have the prisoners ever been actually without coals during the last winter?—No; they generally subscribe themselves; there is a little fee of 2*s.* paid by every prisoner as they come in, which is applied to the procuring of coals.

A sort of garnish?—Yes.

Are any mops, brooms or pails, allowed?—No; I provide them at my own expense.

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Is the want of them felt?—Yes; I should wish to see the place better cleaned than it is, but they are so needy of fuel, that if I give them a broom they will not wear it out, but burn it.

Is any bedding allowed?—There are some rugs.

Who supplies them?—The last we had were from the City of London, about two years ago.

To what amount was that supply?—Twelve rugs, with twelve blankets, I think.

Since that time you have had 625 prisoners within this gaol?—Yes, according to that Statement I have delivered in.

Do you mean that the twelve rugs and the twelve blankets were supplied for the whole gaol?—For the debtors only.

For what term are the debtors generally imprisoned in this gaol?—It is according to the amount of the debt; the shortest time, if it is ever so small a sum, is twenty days, and the longest a hundred; and they must continue the whole length of that time, unless they compromise with their creditors.

So that if a man had four debts, he might be imprisoned for a whole twelvemonth?—Yes.

Though the debts were not above 1*s.* each?—No; the debt must be 3*l.* under the Act of Parliament.

Then for debts of 12*l.* he might be confined a twelvemonth?—Yes, if it is at the suit of four persons.

When you received the last supply of rugs, had you any at that time on hand?—Yes.

To what amount?—Probably there might be twelve rugs and twelve blankets on hand.

How long were those rugs in your possession, prior to your application for fresh ones?—They had been a long while in my possession.

Were they delivered over to you by the gaoler, whom you succeeded?—I took an account when I succeeded; the person was dead, and it was kept by a woman some time before I was appointed.

Was any allowance of rugs made to you by the City of London, from the time you commenced being keeper till your application two years back?—No; when I found they were needed, I applied by petition, and the City were kind enough to relieve me.

Were the rugs very much worn out, and dirty and torn, when you applied?—Yes, they were.

Have you always been supplied with rugs and blankets by the City of London, whenever you have applied for a fresh supply?—Yes, after a time probably; not just immediately.

You have stated, that for three years together you made no application; at the end of that time you made an application, and got twelve rugs and twelve blankets?—Yes.

Since that time you have made no application?—No; I think in the interim Mr. Nield sent me some.

You state, that when you made the application, you had some rugs left; do you mean that you had rugs that you had not delivered out to the prisoners, or only some that were still left in the prison, which were in use?—Some that were still left in use in the prison.

Were they sufficient for the purpose?—There was a necessity for a fresh supply.

You did not apply till you found the want of them?—No.

How many prisoners had you in the prison, when you made the application?—I do not exactly recollect; but the number increasing was the reason of the application.

Did the City grant you the number you applied for?—I made no application for any specific number.

You made an application for rugs on the 22d of March in the course of the present year?—Yes.

Have those rugs been furnished yet?—No, they have not been furnished yet.

Why did you apply on the 22d of March?—I thought of applying before, but there was no Court of Aldermen for three weeks before; but previous to my

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making that application, the prisoners themselves had applied a month or two before that.

To you or to the Court of Aldermen?—To the Court of Aldermen.

Why did you not apply to the Court of Aldermen in the beginning of the winter; saying, that rugs were wanted for the prisoners, and requesting a fresh supply?—It was the beginning of the winter, I think, that the prisoners applied.

In what month do you suppose they applied?—I should rather think about November.

How did they apply?—By petition; it was presented, I see, to the Lord Mayor.

Was that Petition to the Lord Mayor delivered?—Yes; it was made known to me after it was sent.

For what reason was it sent unknown to you?—I cannot say.

Do you know it was delivered?—Yes, I do.

Did the prisoners make any applications to you for rugs before they sent that to the Lord Mayor?—No, I do not recollect that they did.

There was a want of rugs, but they did not tell you of that want?—I know they were not immediately supplied.

Did you, from your knowledge of the state of the prison, it being without glass to the windows, with a scanty supply of fuel, a very severe winter, know that the rugs were wanted for the use of the prisoners?—Certainly I did.

Then why did you not apply?—They had applied, and I was waiting for an answer, to see what effect their petition had.

Why did not you apply before they made their application?—The Keeper of the Poultry compter brought the petition from the Lord Mayor to me; this is the petition [*producing it.*]—It was read, as follows:

"To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor.

"The humble Petition of the Prisoners confined for debt in the Borough compter;—

"Sheweth,

"THAT your petitioners are in the greatest distress; humbly pray your Lordship will pardon the liberty they now take in stating their distressed situation, having no allowance whatever but one twopenny loaf per day, which will scarcely support life; nor is there any allowance for coals or candles; we also beg leave to observe to your Lordship, that this is a very confined place, the yard not being twenty feet square, and the house much incumbered for room; it therefore requires often washing and cleansing, which we are not well able to do for want of necessaries, such as brooms, pails, &c. and as to beds, we may justly say there are none; there are a few old rugs, with very few blankets, but not nearly sufficient for the prisoners now here, and there have been many more than we are at present.

"Your Lordship we hope and trust will pardon this liberty, and grant us such relief as you think proper; and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

"Borough Compter, 18th September 1813.

"Steph^{n} Swaddle, John Gilkes, Edw^{d} Deighton, John James, Tho^{s} Halse, Will^{m} Bagshaw, Thomas Farrall, L. Vanderurenlan, T. Batt, W^{m} Fasket, Tho^{s} Robson, Abraham Hale, James Rose, John Appelton, Rich^{d} Thomas, James Lusin, W^{m} Clerk, W^{m} Boylett, J^{h} Johnson, John Hanscomb, J. Butterfield, C. Addams."

Did Mr. Kirby recommend you to make a regular application to the Court of Aldermen?—Yes, he did.

When did you make that application?—On the 22d of March; but previous to my petition of the 22d of March there was a petition from the prisoners to the Court of Aldermen, as I perceived by the newspapers.

When did Mr. Kirby bring back that petition which has just been read?—I suppose two months ago.

Between the delivery of that petition to you and the 22d of March, were rugs sent to the prison, or were any of the evils complained of redressed?—No.

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On the 22d of March, you presented that Petition?—Yes.

It was read as follows:

"To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and the Worshipful Court of Aldermen of the City of London.

"The Representation and Petition of John Law, Keeper of the Borough Compter.

"Your Petitioner begs to represent to this Worshipful Court, that the prison of the Borough Compter is in a bad state of repair, the windows very much broken, and the casements from decay, not in a condition to hold the glass; the whole of the flooring of one of the wards torn up and destroyed (being in that state before your Petitioner was appointed) the remaining wards much damaged and decayed, as also the ward occupied by the female prisoners; and from the increase of prisoners, amounting at times to the number of thirty and upwards, almost all under the process of the Court of Requests for the Borough of Southwark, and many in the last stage of distress, with small families. Your Petitioner begs most respectfully to draw the attention of this Worshipful Court to the condition of the prison, and to order an inspection thereof.

"Your Petitioner further begs leave to represent to this Worshipful Court, on the behalf of the unfortunate persons in his custody, the scanty supply of rugs, blankets, &c. which your Petitioner has to allot the prisoners; there are not more than twelve rugs and a less number of blankets, very much worn, to supply the only covering to frequently thirty persons sleeping on the boards, unless their own means should afford a bed (which is seldom the case in your Petitioner's class of Debtors) and greatly exposed from the above statement of the prison to the inclemency of the weather. Your Petitioner's prisoners have for allowance, a twopenny loaf each per day, many remaining for a great length of time. In severity of weather, no coals or fuel of any kind is placed under your Petitioner's direction for the use of the prisoners. Cleanliness, where so many are confined in a small place, being most important, your Petitioner begs to represent to this Worshipful Court, that it has been hitherto entirely at his own expense, that pails, mops, and brooms, have been provided for the prison.

"Your Petitioner feels it a further duty to state, that no medical gentleman being appointed to visit the prison, your Petitioner, in cases of illness, is obliged to apply to the parish officers for an order for their doctor to attend.

"Your Petitioner begs further to represent to your Worshipful Court, that the dwelling house of the said prison, occupied by your Petitioner and his family, is likewise in a very bad state of repair, every room requiring whitewashing and colouring; the want of which, in the summer season, particularly gives the whole an appearance of uncleanliness: the drains being stopped, connected with the water closet, and the cellars under water, the stagnation and offensive smells arising therefrom, endanger the health of your Petitioner and family.

"Your Petitioner prays this Worshipful Court, that the above, his dutiful Representation, may be taken into early consideration, and such relief afforded therein on the several particulars, as in the wisdom of this Worshipful Court may seem meet.

"Your Petitioner has the honour to be
Your Lordship's and Worships
most obedient devoted Servant,
March 22d, 1814. *John Law*,
Keeper of the Borough Compter."

What induced you to send that Petition at that particular time?—I would have sent it before, if there had been any Court.

Do you mean to assert that you only waited for the Court?—Yes; when I found there was so much need, I should have wished for the supply.

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You did not send the petition for two months after you received back the first petition?—No.

Why did you not in the course of two months, when there was a Court of Aldermen, present a petition or lay your complaint before the Court of Aldermen?—I did not know that they were in particular need, though they had so small a supply: some of them had things of their own, though not many things.

Were they in a worse situation on the 22d of March than they had been for the last three years?—No; I do not know that they were.

What has taken place in consequence of that last petition you have presented?—Some of the different tradesmen have been sent by the City to repair the place.

Did not a Committee of the Corporation come to view the gaol immediately?—Yes.

Did they not order it to be put into repair?—Yes.

Who visits the prison in general?—Nobody in particular that I know of.

Do you ever recollect any person in authority having visited that prison, since you have had the direction of it; has any Alderman of the City of London ever visited it?—Sir Watkin Lewes has visited it.

No other Alderman?—Not that I recollect.

Have you ever communicated the state of this gaol to Sir Watkin Lewes?—Yes; Sir Watkin knew it was in a bad state of repair: he thought it would have been repaired previously to my appointment.

When do you remember Sir Watkin Lewes to have visited it last?—I think it was from six to nine months past.

And the time before that?—Not more than three months previously to that.

Has he from time to time visited it ever since you remember it?—From time to time; not at any regular time.

How often in the course of a year?—Twice or three times.

Had you communicated that petition to Sir Watkin before you sent it?—No, I did not; but I gave him a copy of one similar to that; there is some little alteration in this.

How long did you give him a copy of that petition prior to your sending it to the Court of Aldermen?—It must have been two months since.

During the hard winter?—Yes.

Has he never been to the prison since he received that report from you, of its state?—No.

Did he do any thing in consequence of the petition you gave him?—No.

Did you show him a petition previously to this petition of the 22d of March?—Yes.

You drew up a petition some time previously to that, and showed it him?—Yes.

Was it a petition addressed to him?—No; I submitted it to him to see whether he approved of it.

How long was that before the petition was sent; was it before Christmas?—I believe about Christmas.

It was about Christmas that you shewed Sir Watkin the draft of the petition you have now presented?—Yes; it is not exactly the same; there are some little alterations in it.

For what purpose did you shew it to him?—For his approbation.

For what reason did you pass three months after that, before you presented this to the Court of Aldermen?—I waited some little time before there was a Court of Aldermen, as Mr. Kirby, the keeper of the Poultry compter, told me he would let me know when there was a Court of Aldermen, when he brought the petition of the prisoners back to me.

Did Sir Watkin make no remark upon it, when you presented it to him?—Yes; he said if he attended the Court of Aldermen, he would present it.

Did you give it him for that purpose?—No; I left him a copy of it.

There are 65 penny loaves distributed weekly in charity?—No; once in six weeks.

Are they distributed immediately among the prisoners on the day on which they are sent in, or from time to time as they are wanted?—As soon as they are sent in.

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So that it might happen there were but three or four prisoners in the gaol, and they might have the whole 65 loaves among them?—It has happened there have been very few at the time they came in.

Is that the only charity belonging to the prison?—That is what is annual; that is all except casual charity.

Are those 65 loaves directed to be distributed on the same day, or is it at the discretion of the gaoler?—They are distributed on a particular day; the man who brings them requires four-pence.

Since you have been keeper of the prison, have you ever witnessed any scenes of distress, in consequence of want of clothing and bedding, and fire?—Some of them are worse off than others, and when I see that, I endeavour to get them relief in some way.

Have you witnessed distress in consequence of the want of bedding, food and fire?—Some probably may have little more than the twopenny loaf, unless some others assist them, that are better off.

Unless they receive that assistance from a fellow prisoner or from other charity, they have no assistance at all?—I would not suffer any one, if I knew it, to suffer from want.

Has this twopenny loaf been the allowance to the prisoners, ever since you have known the prison?—Yes.

It has never been increased?—No.

When the price of bread has been high, the twopenny loaf has been smaller, of course?—Yes.

No increase has been made?—No.

Did you ever know any persons ill in the prison, in consequence of want of necessaries?—No, not arising from want.

Who pays the baker? how is the contract made with him?—He is paid by the Chamberlain of the City of London.

He has directions from the City of London to send in as many twopenny loaves as you have prisoners?—Yes.

Do you give him orders how many to supply?—Yes, I do, as they come in.

You order of the baker as much bread as you think necessary for your own family, and as many twopenny loaves as are necessary, one for each?—Yes; sometimes there are more brought in than there are prisoners, and then we order a less number for the next day.

Does any examination take place as to whether the twopenny loaf is of the weight a twopenny loaf ought to be?—Yes; I have observed them rather smaller than they ought to be, and have made complaints; and unless they remedied it, I have told them I would represent it to Sir Watkin.

Do you inform yourself of the price of bread, so as to ascertain that the twopenny loaf is as large as it ought to be?—I have at times discovered that it was not so large as it ought to be; and I have said I could not pass it over unnoticed; that I must acquaint the High Bailiff of it.

Have your complaints been attended to?—Yes; it has been mended.

How have you discovered that, by your eyesight or by weight?—By my eyesight.

Do you give a twopenny loaf to each child in the prison?—No.

What is the smallest Debt for which you have ever known a prisoner in that prison?—I have known them there for one shilling.

To what do the costs amount upon such a debt?—According to what degree of process there is: it will amount to 9 *s.* 5 *d.* if they go through every process.

If a debtor owes five shillings to five different persons, he would pay five times those costs, and would lie in gaol one hundred days, twenty days for each suit?—Yes, unless discharged by his creditors.

In consequence of your petition to the Corporation of London, has the Committee of the Corporation given orders not only for the repairs necessary for the prison, but also for the supply of those rugs and other articles which are deemed necessary for the comfort of the prisoners?—Yes; they said they should be immediately supplied, and that they would make some addition in point of their food, so as to supply them with a little rice.

You said, it is impossible to exclude a man entirely from the women's sleeping wards; what is the reason of that impossibility?—It is not impossible, if I lock them in.

Are the accommodations for night charges in your prison roomy?—Yes.

Do

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Do you supply them with beds?—No; we give them a rug or a blanket, or whatever we have.

Have they a fire in the room?—No; they have a cell, but they have a stone kitchen and a yard if they remain longer.

They are taken in the morning before the Magistrates at Union Hall?—Yes, they are.

Do they ever remain longer than one night?—Not in general; they are sent by the Magistrates to the county gaol.

Would it not be a great accommodation if the two yards were thrown together?—Yes; but then the felons and debtors would mix together.

You were understood to say, you have none who remain longer than a night?—We have sometimes such a thing, but it is very seldom.

They have no allowance?—No; they have not.

If they should remain over a day, should you not make them an allowance?—If they come back again, it is through their own request to the Magistrates, and then probably they are not so much in need.

In short, you have never given them any allowance?—We never do, unless we see them in want; the principal part of those brought in are sabbath-breakers and riotous drunken people, and they are taken up to answer for their conduct the next day.

Is the supply of Water good and regular?—We have been without water a long while, during this frost; I applied to the turncock; he said, that it was owing to the pipes lying so near the surface.

How did you supply them with water?—Their boys and their wives went out and got it, the same as we did for our own use.

What is the time of day for the delivery of the bread?—As soon as it comes; about eight in the morning.

Supposing there were thirty persons in the prison, would thirty loaves be brought?—Yes; they are never deficient in number.

Supposing some new prisoners to be brought in about twelve or one, when would they get an allowance?—We do not consider them entitled, unless they are there when the bread is distributed.

They would receive no food until the next day, if they came in after the distribution at eight in the morning?—No.

You state in your petition, that the compter is in a bad state of repair, do you mean that the roof is in a bad state?—The rafters; in fact the beams and rafters have got the dry rot.

Does the rain come in?—No.

It is weather-tight?—Yes; the slaters have come in every year; there is less to do by them than by others.

Do you consider yourself as responsible to Sir Watkin Lewes for every thing you do in this gaol?—Yes.

Do you report to Sir Watkin Lewes occasionally the circumstances which pass in the gaol?—Yes.

How frequently do you make those reports?—Sometimes I have occasion to report once in three months, and sometimes oftener.

Do you report once in three months to Sir Watkin Lewes, the state of the gaol?—Yes; I inform him of the state the gaol is in.

Do you do it at stated times, or whenever it appears necessary?—When I occasionally go there.

Have you occasionally received directions from him, as to your conduct in the prison?—Yes; that he wished redress should be given, was always his expression, and that he would acquaint the Court of Aldermen.

Did Sir Watkin Lewes present that last petition of the 22d of March to the Court of Aldermen?—No.

When you gave him the copy, he said he would present it?—Yes; he said he had not time then, but would look into it.

Did you expect he would present that copy?—No; I thought I might hear from Sir Watkin probably, upon the subject of it.

You yourself have never received any code of regulations from Sir Watkin, for the guidance of your conduct in the prison?—No, only what I found in the gaol.

Have you any written regulations?—No.

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Have you any code of regulations or orders for the management of the prison?—What we have are fastened up. We give them till ten o'clock at night for their friends to be with them, and then we lock up, and open at eight; and on Sunday we keep the prison fast from 11 to 1.

Is there any other regulation for the government of the prison?—No; only to prevent the bringing of spirits into the prison.

Martis, 5° *die Aprilis* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

Sir *Watkin Lewes*, called in, and Examined.

Sir Watkin Lewes.

YOU are, I believe, the Bailiff of Southwark?—Yes.

Under whom do you hold that appointment?—Under the Corporation of the City of London.

With what salary?—No salary at all.

With what emoluments?—They are fees arising by virtue of the office, but I do not receive one half of that which I ought to receive.

Is it not part of your office, as Bailiff of Southwark, to be keeper of the Borough Compter?—I certainly do not consider myself in that situation, except as High Bailiff of the Town and Borough of Southwark; on the contrary I appoint a keeper, and in his appointment the word keeper is so expressed.

Is it a written or a verbal appointment?—It is a written appointment.

Do you consider it to be a part of your duty, as Bailiff of Southwark, to see that the keeper of the Borough Compter performs the duty of his office?—I consider it in no other light than as the Sheriff of a county; the Sheriff of a county, I should suppose, ought to look to the state of the gaol: and I was very much surprised to find myself described as keeper of the Compter.

Have you not, in point of fact, frequently visited the prisons?—I have, because I thought it highly proper that I should, upon a representation being made to me that the prison wanted repair, inspect it; and I have frequently represented to certain members of the Corporation the condition of the prison; but if I had been a member of those Committees, I should have stated it to the Committees themselves.

Have you ever caused a representation of the state of the prison to be laid before those Committees?—I have mentioned it to several members, and to the clerk of the works, requesting that he would report it to the Committee.

Have those representations been private, or public?—They have been in conversation (not public of course) with various members of the court.

Were any of those representations made in writing?—I do not recollect that they were.

Was it any thing further than mere verbal communication?—I conceived I was making a proper representation to the clerk of the works, and that he should state it to the Committee.

Was you aware that a petition was presented by the prisoners in September last?—I do not recollect it; it might very possibly have been mentioned to me, but I do not recollect it.

Did you take any means to forward the objects of that petition?—I have desired the keeper of the prison to get me a petition from them, and that I would present it to the Court of Aldermen.

Did the keeper two months ago give you a copy of such a petition?—He did give me a copy, which I thought informal, and I said I would present it at the next Court, but I wished to have it correct; it was correct in substance, but not in form.

Was that petition ever presented?—I did not happen to be present; I was not well, and was unable to attend the Court of Aldermen; it was presented in my absence; if I had been well, I should have presented it myself.

At what time was it presented?—I believe it was about a month ago, but this was antecedent to any notice of any enquiry in the House of Commons. I have long felt it my duty to represent to the members of the Corporation the situation of the Borough Prison.

Sir Watkin Lewes.

How long have you been Bailiff of Southwark?—Upwards of twenty years.

Is the prison in a worse state now than it has been at any time during your continuance in that office?—Of course it must be from the length of time, for want of repairs.

Have repairs taken place during those twenty years?—Yes, there have been some, in consequence of my representation to the clerk of the works, but no substantial repairs.

Are you aware that the evils complained of arose not only from want of repairs, but from the want of bedding, the want of provisions, and the want of fuel?—Yes; for I have desired the keeper to go to the different compters, and to let me know what bedding was allowed by the City of London to the other compters, and I would move in the Court of Aldermen, that the same should be allowed to the Compter in the Borough.

During those twenty years was that motion ever made?—It was; I have heard very lately, that is, within three or four years, that there was some allowance made to them in blankets and so on; but I have not heard of any thing of that kind till very lately, though I had desired them to make the enquiry, what was the allowance made by the Court of Aldermen to the other compters.

Was that enquiry made?—I could not have presented the petition, because I had not the materials.

Did the keeper of the prison obey those instructions?—He gave me no information till I saw this petition.

How long ago were those orders given?—I cannot charge my memory directly, but I did tell him to make the enquiry as to what rugs and blankets, and other things, were ordered; and as soon as I received information of what they were in want of, I ordered them.

Was that order given many years ago?—I believe a few years ago.

Was that order given before the receipt of the small number of rugs that have been stated?—I believe it was given before, and I believe since, at least as it has been represented to me; and I desired to know what was the allowance given to the other compters.

In what manner is the keeper of this prison remunerated?—I have given him an appointment in addition to his situation as keeper, I suppose, to the amount of 3 or 400*l.* a year; that is, as clerk, and as one of my officers of the Court of Requests.

Is the expense of keeping the prison chargeable to him?—I should suppose chargeable upon the City of London, and not to him.

Supposing the person who keeps the prison not to have had the appointment you have given him, upon whom would it have devolved to find him a salary?—I should conceive this additional appointment a much more advantageous thing; and I should apprehend the City of London would have done it, or I should have done it, if I had not given him a very superior situation.

Do you happen to know how his predecessor was paid?—I cannot say.

Did his predecessor hold the prison under you?—Yes, he did.

Was he paid by you, or had he also an office?—He had also an office.

Was your appointment, of Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, in writing?—Yes.

Is the prison included in that appointment?—The prison is included, and the appointment of all the officers, and particularly the appointment of the Borough Compter, and it is so expressed in his deed of appointment.

Out of your fees as Bailiff of Southwark, do you pay all the officers who serve you?—I pay none of the officers; they have some of them very profitable situations, others are inferior.

Do you consider yourself as responsible for the good management of the prison?—I consider myself no otherwise responsible than as the Sheriff of a county, to inspect the state of the gaol.

Did you ever make any representation, either written or parol, to the Court of Aldermen, since you have been Bailiff, of the state of the prison?—I cannot recollect whether I gave a written representation, but I had stated it to several members of the Court of Aldermen, and the members of the Court of Common Council, who had the management of the city lands.

Do I understand you to say, that you stated it individually in private conversation, or in your place as a member of the Court of Aldermen?—I do not

Sir Watkin Lewes,

recollect that I did state it in my place; I thought it would come with more propriety from some other gentleman, and I would support it.

Do you pay for the prisoners allowance of bread?—I have nothing to do with that, it is the City's allowance; I sign it, and the Chamberlain pays it; and this day the Lord Mayor has made an order for a further allowance of both bread and meat.

Is it by your authority that the prisoners receive any additional bread and meat?—I have nothing to do with it, only to sign the account which I receive from other people.

Do you know under what authority the gaoler receives this allowance of bread for the use of himself and his family?—I understand, from the City of London.

You do not understand that there is an express allowance made, but that it is a common usage?—I understand it to be a common usage.

Are you aware that the gaoler every day receives a certain quantity of bread for his own use?—I have understood so, that he receives it, as it has been a usage for the keeper to receive it.

Is that a part of what you certify?—Yes; the quantity of loaves is stated, and there is no distinction, that I recollect, but a general account as to the number.

If you were not to sign and certify that account, would it be paid by the Court of Aldermen?—I am directed to sign it; and I suppose, being so directed, they expect I should sign it.

Do you enquire what number of persons are in prison at the time the return of bread is made?—Yes; when they have brought me the account, I have enquired into it and examined it very particularly.

On the 24th December, 202 twopenny loaves were given in the prison; the gaoler told us, yesterday, that he received eight quartern loaves, and there seems to be no account here of quartern loaves; can you explain why the quartern loaves are not charged?—I cannot explain it; the baker brings me an account, and it is signed by other persons who are directed to sign it as well as myself, and when they have certified I sign it; when I have seen the keeper I have asked him from time to time what number of prisoners were there.

When you signed this account, did you know what part of the bread was furnished to the prisoners, and what part to the gaoler?—No; I signed it in consequence of its being signed by other persons; after seeing their approbation, I sign it as a matter of course, because I conceive them to be more competent than myself.

Do you consider the keeper to be a principal, and not your deputy?—I conceive him to be a principal; the appointment describes him to be the keeper.

Do you receive the fees you have mentioned, as High Bailiff of the Borough, unconnected with the prison?—I received them upon various accounts.

Will you have the goodness to state any of the accounts upon which you receive fees?—I receive fees from the Court of Requests; and there are other fees and emoluments that come to me from manors in the Borough.

Whatever fees are collected in the prison, do they go to the emolument of the gaoler, or to you?—I have never received a fee in my life from the gaol.

Then there is no particular emolument that you derive from this prison?—I have no emolument whatever.

Mr. *John Law*, Keeper of the Borough Compter, called in.

[*Produces a Paper.*]

Mr. John Law.

Do you come forward of your own accord, or were you sent for?—I came of my own accord.

[*The Paper read.*]

"To Mr. John Law, Keeper of the Borough Compter.

"As no Court of Aldermen have met to-day, I do hereby require and authorize you to order, from this day, to every prisoner in your custody, 14 ounces of wheaten bread instead of a twopenny loaf; and also to give every prisoner two pounds of meat weekly, and to provide, for the use of the prisoners, a bushel of coals daily; until you receive further orders. Dated Guildhall, 5th day of April.

"(Signed) *W. M. Domville*, Mayor."

Look

Mr. John Law.

Look at that paper [*showing the Witness a Paper*] what is it?—This is the quarter's bill.

Does it contain an account of the bread delivered to yourself?—Yes; and the prisoners also.

You stated, yesterday, that you had quartern loaves?—We received bread in quartern loaves; but they are accounted to the City as twopenny loaves.

Do you keep a check by which you know that the account is correct?—We put down the number of loaves every morning, and at the end of the week we compare the bills, to see whether the supply of bread agrees with the bills.

Do you think yourself entitled, as keeper, to bread for the use of your own family?—Yes.

If it is sent in to you in peck loaves and half peck loaves, why do you not direct the baker to deliver in his account agreeably to the manner in which he sends in his bread?—That has never been acted upon.

Have you not received instructions to call at Guildhall of a morning, to give information of what is wanted, of rugs and other things?—Yes.

Your's is a written appointment?—Yes.

When was it made out?—About three years and a half since.

Was there any particular occasion to give you a written appointment?—I was keeper of the gaol five years before I had an appointment as an officer.

What salary did you receive before you was appointed an officer?—I received no salary.

What compensation did you receive for the trouble you took as gaoler?—The bread, and the rent, and the house to live in.

How many hours in the day is it necessary for you to be out of the gaol?—Many hours.

What is the nature of your office?—To serve attachments and executions.

Do you take people in execution?—Yes.

And where do you lodge them?—In the gaol.

In your own gaol?—Yes.

How are you described in that written appointment you have mentioned?—As the keeper of the Borough Compter, and an officer of the Court of Requests for the Town and Borough of Southwark.

Does the Court of Requests sit often?—Tuesday and Friday, sometimes for three hours.

Are you necessarily in attendance when the court sits?—Yes.

Who made out your appointment?—A person of the name of Card, by the order of Sir Watkin Lewes.

How did you hold your office before you had the appointment?—Under Sir Watkin Lewes.

Are you described as under-keeper?—No.

What are the profits of your office?—I suppose about 70*l.* a year.

Do you include the whole of the emoluments in that?—There are caption fees and summonses, which make it more.

Can you state the whole amount of your emoluments?—No, I cannot.

Is it 300*l.* a year?—No; at times probably it might be 150*l.*

Is that the full amount?—Yes.

Mr. *J. A. Newman*, called.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Do you examine the baker's account of bread furnished to the Borough Compter?—Merely in casting it up, no further.

The receipt of it is certified by the gaoler first?—Yes; and then I cast up the amount.

Why is it necessary that you should do so?—It was done by my predecessor Mr. Kirby, and Mr. Akerman before him; I have seen it done by them both, and I conceive it to be from the connection there is between the City and the Borough, to bring the accounts into one channel.

Mercurii, 20° *die Aprilis* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

The Reverend *Methusaleh Davis*, called in, and Examined.

Rev. Methusaleh Davis.

OF what prison are you the chaplain?—I am chaplain to the Poultry compter; about six or seven or eight years ago, the prisoners were all removed from the Poultry to Giltspur-street; the duty was then divided, and the sheriffs, who were Mr. Alderman Scholey and Mr. Alderman Domville, made an order that we should do the duty alternately every other month; Mr. Edmunds, the other chaplain, has been dead these five years, and I have done the whole of the duty since.

What is that duty?—Reading the whole of the prayers every Sunday morning; I begin the duty at half after ten.

Do you ever attend the prison on week days?—I have done so several times; I have found by experience, having been now three four or five and thirty years chaplain, more benefit from talking to the prisoners than I really think there is from preaching, and I have never found any of them so hardened but there was some impression made upon them; I generally enquire (and I hope it will not be considered impertinent) whether there are any bad characters in the prison, and I have taken opportunities of talking to them.

Is your general residence in the country?—I have a family. I never had any other preferment but being chaplain to this prison; I was twenty years early reader at St. Paul's Cathedral, and had no other preferment, occasional duty excepted; I am now master of a charity school or free school belonging to the worshipful company of Brewers, where I have been fifteen years.

Have you any preferment in the country?—None whatever, except that of schoolmaster.

Is your general residence out of town?—It is; for I cannot sleep with comfort in London, even one night; I am unfortunately troubled with a very bad asthma in the winter time: I used to walk to do the duty, but of late I have not been able to do that; infirmities creep upon me, and I am getting into years; I am now seventy-two years of age.

How distant from London is your general residence?—From Tyburn turnpike it is exactly twelve miles, and I think from Tyburn to Giltspur-street must be three miles; it is about fifteen miles as nearly as I can state.

How long has your health obliged you to reside generally out of London?—I have resided out of London ever since I was elected schoolmaster to the worshipful company of Brewers; but my health has been pretty well until within the last four or five years, since which it has been impossible for me to have existed three nights in the winter in London.

In what year were you so appointed schoolmaster?—In April 1800.

Do you on week days occasionally visit London?—Never, if I can help it.

Are not, then, your opportunities of talking to the prisoners very rare?—Certainly they are, because I cannot come to them; when I lived in London the opportunities I then had of talking to them were frequent. I hope the Court of Aldermen, considering my long and faithful services, will consider the infirmity of old age as they have done; for these four years last past I have had an additional freedom from the City of London for doing the duty.

What is your salary?—The salary is 30 *l.* a year; about twenty years ago, the Court of Aldermen made an order that a gratuity should be voted to the chaplain for his good behaviour, and that *durante bene placito* of the Court, and they have continued that gratuity ever since; and for these four years they have given me or voted me a freedom, that is, twenty-five pounds; Mr. Alderman Combe has moved for it, and other Aldermen likewise have.

Is there a gratuity besides the freedom?—Yes; the freedom is given to me exclusive of that.

Rev. Methusaleh Davis.

What is the amount of the gratuity?—Twenty pounds annually, during pleasure, and during good behaviour.

Is the total amount 75 *l.* a year?—Yes; with the deduction of the property tax.

During your absence from London, if there should be occasion for a chaplain to visit the prison on account of the illness of any prisoners, is any gentleman ready to attend for you?—Since I have been so infirm with this pulmonary complaint, I cannot come so often in the winter time, and I have a gentleman to assist me, but this I can say, that the duty has never been neglected; I have been there between thirty and forty years, and I think that the duty has never been neglected three times.

Is this gentleman who does this part of your duty for you, paid by you?—He is paid by me; I pay him as liberally as I can.

Is he an occasional assistant?—An occasional assistant; I do not limit him to any certain time, for fear he should do that which I disapproved; and I desire him to go so many Sundays, and then I send him word whether he shall go any more or not.

Does the keeper attend chapel?—I think I have seen him there twice; the under keepers always attend.

In how many years have you seen the keeper attend twice?—I really cannot exactly tell, perhaps in five or six or seven years; I have been at Giltspur-street compter only six or seven years.

Then you do not in six or seven years remember having seen the keeper more than twice present?—I do not remember that I have, but he might have been there without my observing or remembering it, or have come in after the duty was begun; but the under keepers always attend.

Is the general behaviour of the prisoners at chapel good?—Exceedingly orderly, circumspect and attentive; and I am convinced they always will be so if the clergyman pays a proper attention to his duty; a great deal depends upon that.

Have you a clerk to guide them in their responses?—There is a regular clerk appointed by the Court of Aldermen.

Is the sacrament ever administered?—It has not been usual so to do at these prisons; I have never known it to be so; I do not know even whether it is administered at Newgate, except before execution days.

If a prisoner were dying in your absence from London, and he wished for religious attendance, who would attend him?—The head and the under keepers know where to send to me; I have an assistant always upon extraordinary occasions that would attend, but if I knew of such an occasion I would attend myself, I would prefer attending; I have attended several, and some with bad disorders, infectious almost; I have always desired the keeper, if there should be any unruly person, or any person in a dying situation, that I might be sent for, and I have attended.

The Reverend *John Rose*, called in, and Examined.

Rev. John Rose.

TO what prison are you chaplain?—Ludgate.

What are the duties attached to that office?—Sunday duty, one service.

With what salary and gratuity?—The salary and gratuities together amount to 50*l.* a year, with the deduction of course of property-tax; when I state Sunday duty I should add, I do occasionally call on the week days; I consider myself bound, having the duty of cure of souls, to call there in the week day, as occasions may happen, and always attend if sent for.

Do you find your frequent attendance on week days beneficial to the prisoners?—It certainly would be so, provided there was room to have conversations with the prisoners, but there is not; the place is extremely contracted, and there is no speaking to one prisoner but in the presence of another, and of course you cannot say that to a man in public as a spiritual adviser, which you would say in private. I should think it my duty as a clergyman, beyond spirituals, to attend to the comfort of these people in temporals; I have (and I may say here without appearance of egotism and vanity) been the means every year of releasing a great number of persons by personal exertion, and provided there had been a greater

Rev. John Rose.

a greater space of room, I think I should have done more; and I have always lamented one circumstance, that the number of prisoners being so (if I may so express myself) huddled together, does not allow that which I am sure a great number of them would attend to, and that is, private prayer: men cannot kneel down by the side of a bed where there are three or four perhaps in the same bed, and a dozen or more in the same room; it is not in the nature of man to do that. The persons confined in this prison are in a different rank of life from common persons, because it is confined to a higher class of men, the freemen of the city of London and professional men. I have found certainly a great number of persons coming in there, who knew nothing of religious duty till they have come there, and from their afflictions perhaps have been brought to think a little, and have afterwards turned out very serious and grave men; and I have no doubt that if there were better accommodations, and more opportunity for a clergyman to pay that attention which he ought to do, that the number of that class would increase in a very large degree; that the men would turn out much better: but where there are so many persons huddled together in a little room, it is impossible to administer either temporal or spiritual advice to them, in the manner in which it ought to be done.

Do you administer the sacrament?—When it is required, but not at any stated periods; in cases of sickness, or frequently I apply to them to know whether they will not wish it; but really there is not a proper place to administer the sacrament in.

Have you a clerk?—One of the prisoners generally officiates as clerk; there is no regular clerk, neither has there ever been, I believe; but of that I am not certain.

Is there any allowance from the city of London for a clerk?—In this prison there is a kind of corporation among themselves, and one of the rules is, I believe, that they choose a clerk for a month or six weeks, or some given time, and they allow him I believe fourpence a time for doing the duty; I am not certain whether that comes out of the prisoners pockets, but I believe it does. The chapel has been frequently obliged to be filled up with beds; I have known eight or nine sleep there in the week days, so that when I have attempted to call on the week days and consult with them, I have not been able to get into the chapel.

During that time was any service performed in the chapel?—Oh yes; it was never omitted, the beds and bedsteads were taken out previous to my attending there; I cannot say the air has been extremely pleasant to go into on such an occasion, but the room has been entirely cleared.

Do you live in the neighbourhood?—I do.

Have you other preferment?—Yes, I have indeed; I have held this nearly forty years, I am certain I have held it above thirty-seven years; it was the first thing I ever had, and I have some regard for my charge.

Your other preferment does not interfere with this?—No; it is in London, and being the Rector I have been enabled to have the duty at a later hour; I attend these people at about a quarter before ten, my other duty does not commence till half past eleven, so that I manage them together extremely well.

In point of fact, do you frequently administer the sacrament to the prisoners in health?—No, certainly not; there is no convenience for the purpose.

Does the keeper attend the service on Sunday?—Sometimes; he does not very constantly attend, I have seen him there sometimes; and I must say I never saw a man more attentive to his duty than the gaoler; the place is kept as clean as such a place can be kept, and I have always found him extremely attentive on all grounds, and a most humane man in attention to their temporal interests: where I have interfered I have frequently found that he has been before me in interfering with the creditors of persons unfortunately confined there.

Veneris, 22° *die Aprilis* 1814.

The Honourable GEORGE EDEN, in The Chair.

A Letter from Sir Watkin Lewes to the Chairman, dated Somerset-street, April 21, 1814, *read.*

William Mountague, Esquire, called in, and Examined.

W. Mountague, Esq.

WHAT is your employment under the City of London?—I am assistant surveyor to the City lands.

Have you the plans with you of the prison which is to be built for the relief of Newgate?—Yes.

In what situation is that prison to be built?—In Whitecross-street, in the City of London.

What progress has been made in the building?—I should think that more than two thirds of the carcase of the building is completed.

At what time do you reckon it will be ready for the reception of prisoners?—I think by exertion it might be completed in twelve months.

If the scale of exertion upon which you are now proceeding is continued, would it be completed in twelve months?—Yes, I think it would.

What area of ground is it to cover?—Something less than an acre.

Including the yards?—The whole area, including the boundary-wall; it is under an acre.

What number of prisoners is it calculated to contain?—Five hundred and forty-four.

Is it fire-proof?—No.

At what part of the prison is the entrance?—In the front, next Whitecross-street.

Is that entrance to be the gaoler's house?—Yes.

What is the area of the yard for Newgate?—One hundred and eighty by forty feet.

What part of that is appropriated to the common side, what to master's side, and what to women?—The common side is 120 by 40; the master's side 22 by 48; and the remainder is given to the women's court, leaving room for a passage to the rest of the prison.

In how many divisions is the yard containing the Ludgate, Poultry, and Giltspur-street debtors?—Six.

Do you, in forming the plan of the prison, conceive that much inconvenience arises from these numerous subdivisions?—Certainly; because the spaces for air and exercise might be wholly used by all the parties, without being limited by subdivisions.

Have you any prospect of furnishing additional room, to afford air and exercise to the prisoners?—There have been some buildings purchased by the City, adjoining the prison and fronting Redcross-street, which, if taken down and inclosed by the boundary-wall, would afford an additional space for air and exercise, of about 160 feet by 40 feet.

What are the objections to the acquisition of the employment of that land?—The agreement made with the inhabitants of Redcross-street, by the Improvement Committee, that there should be no appearance of the prison fronting Redcross-street.

Was the Act of Parliament obtained under the sanction of that agreement?—The Act was obtained after that agreement was made, certainly with the expectation of it being kept.

Is that the only land you have the prospect of obtaining?—No; we have the prospect of some land in Fore-street, for the purpose of building an infirmary.

Would

W. Mountague, Esq.

Would it be possible to acquire sufficient land to form another yard in that direction?—I think it might.

Is one gaoler to be at the head of all these prisons?—Yes.

Are any subdivisions made in the chapel for the different descriptions of prisoners?—No.

Are there windows to both sides of the rooms in the upper stories?—No.

How are they then to be ventilated?—By apertures from over the doors, to have an access with the staircases; there certainly cannot be any thorough air, unless it should be considered necessary to introduce ventilators, which might very easily be done.

Appendix, No. 2.

To the Honourable the Committee of the House of Commons, on the State of the Gaols of the City of London;

A RETURN of the Fees payable by, and a List of the Benefactions annually made to, the Prisoners, Criminals or Debtors, in the Prison of *Newgate*, under the Charge of JN° A. NEWMAN, Keeper, 31 March 1814.

FEES - - - DEBTORS.

	£.	s.	d.
For every Debtor admitted on the Master's Side - - - - - - Entrance Fee	0.	3.	0.
For Bed, Bedding and Sheets - - - - per week	0.	2.	6.
Ditto - - - - - - - two in a Bed - - - each	0.	1.	3.
For every Debtor's discharge - - - - To the Keeper	0.	6.	10.
To the Turnkeys	0.	2.	0.
Sheriff's Fees in Middlesex:			
For one Action	0.	4.	6.
For every other Action, each	0.	2.	6.
Sheriff's Fees in London, the same as at Ludgate:			
Conduct Fee, for taking a Debtor before any Jurisdiction in London	1.	1.	0.

CRIMINALS.

	£.	s.	d.
For every Felon's discharge - - - - - To the Keeper	0.	18.	10.
Every Misdemeanor	0.	14.	10.
Entrance on the Master's Side	0.	10.	6.
Bedding for the first week (two in a Bed)	0.	3.	0.
Every other week	0.	2.	6.
Admittance to the Press Yard - - - (now State Side)	3.	3.	0.
Bedding per week, two in a Bed - - - each	0.	7.	0.
For every bailable Warrant or Pardon	3.	6.	8.
For every Transport's discharge	0.	14.	10.
Conduct Fee, taking a Prisoner out of the Prison before any Jurisdiction in London	1.	1.	0.
Conduct Fee for every Master Side Prisoner taken to the Old Bailey for trial, first time	0.	2.	6.
Every other time	0.	1.	6.
For every Prisoner surrendering in Court	0.	13.	0.

For accommodation in the Turnkey's Rooms, which are without the Gates, and unattached to the Prison Yards, a Sum calculated to compensate the inconvenience of lodging the Turnkey at a distance, and the increased risque of Escape; say, from two to five Guineas per week, as one or more Rooms are so occupied.

For accommodation in my own private Apartments, which are not adapted for safe custody, a Bond with sufficient Sureties, together with a Sum calculated to hire a House or Apartments for the residence of my Family, during such occupation by a Prisoner; say Ten Guineas per week.

And these two last modes of accommodation are unwillingly granted to the importunity of Persons requiring the same.

(continued.)

Return of Fees and Benefactions in Newgate—*continued.*

Fees to the Clerk of the Peace, or Clerk in Court of the Session of Gaol Delivery of Newgate:

	£.	s.	d.
For every Felon's discharge - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	6.	2.
- - - Petit Larceny - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	4.	10.
- - - Misdemeanor - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	10.	0.

These Fees are collected by the Keeper, and I believe there are other Fees for surrendering in Court and other matters; besides which, the Prisoners take Money from each other for Ward Dues or Garnish.

BENEFACTIONS:

A supply of Rugs yearly, from a Committee composed of Aldermen and Commoners of London; the last supply was 800 Rugs.

Occasional Clothing to the most destitute, out of the Sheriff's Fund, and also by the Court of Aldermen.

Fourteen ounces of the best Wheaten Bread daily to each Debtor; and a double allowance to the Steward of each Ward, as an inducement to promote cleanliness among his or her inmates.

Ten ounces of the same Bread daily to each Criminal, with double allowance to Wardsmen, &c. and in lieu of the other four ounces, the Poor are supplied with Potatoes, Rice, &c. with Coals to cook the same, and an allowance of Oatmeal, &c. for the Women's Breakfast. These are paid for by the Court of Aldermen, who also especially provide for the Sick in the Infirmaries, and Allowances to the Assistants.

To poor Debtors - - - - - - - -	8 stone of Beef,	Weekly;
Infirmary - - - - - - - - -	12 lbs. of Mutton,	
Poor Felons - - - - - - - - -	18 stone of Beef,	
Infirmaries - - - - - - - -	3 d° of Mutton,	

besides an extra Allowance of one pound of Beef to each Criminal on the Common Side, being in number from 300 to 400, and about two gallons of Milk weekly for the Children of Female Criminals; and these are paid for out of the Sheriff's Fund.

Broken Victuals frequently from Messrs. Birch & Co. Cornhill, and Messrs. Leach & Dallimore, Ludgate Hill.

One hundred Pounds is laid out by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, in a Christmas and New Year's Gift, of Meat, Beer and Coals.

Many Charitable Legacies have been bequeathed to the Poor Debtors, and become payable, and are received as follows; viz.

See Neild's State of Prisons, page 419.

In Lady-day Quarter - - - - - - - - - - -	16	2	2
Midsummer d° - - - - - - - - - - -	4	18	8
Michaelmas d° - - - - - - - - - - -	6	15	4
Christmas d° - - - - - - - - - - -	26	4	10
Miss Misson left £. 6. - - - - - - - - - Received	5	1	0
Christ's Hospital £. 2. once in three years - - - - - - - -	0	13	4
Yearly - - - -	£. 59	15	4

together with sundry Bequests of Bread and Meat; and I have had the felicity of inducing the Debtors to make common Stock of the above yearly amount, which has now produced upwards of £. 1,200. and given rise to that excellent Institution, called The Sheriff's Fund, to which a Legacy of £. 100. per annum has lately been bequeathed.

There are also several Legacies appropriated for the discharge of poor Debtors, and for paying their Fees.

All which is most humbly returned, in obedience to the Order of this Honourable Committee, by

JN° A. NEWMAN,
Keeper of Newgate.

Appendix, No. 3.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS which the different Wards of *Newgate* contain, distinguishing the Criminal Side and the Debtors Side.

CRIMINALS.	Number conveniently contained.			The Number contained on the 4th April, 1814.	The greatest Number which they have contained at any one time in the last year, namely, in January last.
Men:					
Press Yard - - - Cells	28.	- - -	- - -	None	45
Infirmary	12.	- - -	- - -	10	11
Chapel Yard	about	70	- - -	78	90
Middle Yard	- - -	80	- - -	82	120
Master's Side	- - -	70	- - -	49	60
State Side	- - -	40	- - -	20	30
			260		
Women:					
Cell - - - - - - about	5.	- - -	- - -	None	5
Infirmary	12.	- - -	- - -	5	125
Common Side	about	45	- - -	60	
Master's Side	- - -	12	- - -	5	
			57		
DEBTORS.					
Men:					
Infirmary	6.	- - -	- - -	3	308
Cabin Side	- - -	15	- - -	29	
Master's Side	- - -	12	- - -	17	
Common Side	- - -	67	- - -	94	
			94		
Women	- - -	- - -	16	17	28
TOTAL - - -			427	469	821

In explanation of the difference between the numbers which Newgate is described to be capable of containing, and the number which it will conveniently hold, I am to observe, that in considering what it will hold conveniently, I have omitted the Cells and Infirmaries, whose inhabitants are liable to be replaced in the other Wards, upon respite or recovery. But convenience cannot be obtained in Newgate, without having some unoccupied Rooms or Ward, to be used in case of contagion, or other emergency, which will further reduce the number; especially as the calculation has been made upon the supposition that every part of the Prison had the full complement of persons it was capable of holding.

The calculation, as per Mr. Neild's book on Prisons, is 300 Men, and 80 Women Criminals; and 134 Men, and 22 Women Debtors.

Men - - - - 434 }
Women - - - 102 } Grand TOTAL 536 Prisoners.

JNº NEWMAN.
4 May, 1814.

N. B. The number of Debtors who receive the daily sixpence from their Creditors, is five.

Appendix, No. 4.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of TRANSPORTS in *Newgate* at the beginning, and also at the end of each Session, from December 1810 to the end of February 1814; viz.

SESSION.	BEGINNING.			ENDING.		
	Men.	Women.	TOTAL.	Men.	Women.	TOTAL.
December - - - 1810	65	64	129.	90	69	159.
January - - - - 1811	90	69	159.	106	74	180.
February - - - —	81	28	109.	90	30	120.
April - - - - - —	108	46	152.	120	52	172.
May - - - - - —	57	45	102.	74	52	126.
July - - - - - —	76	37	113.	96	51	147.
September - - - —	35	52	87.	74	73	147.
October - - - - —	71	73	144.	72	85	157.
December - - - —	79	84	163.	94	87	181.
January - - - - 1812	70	85	155.	94	93	187.
February - - - —	67	91	158.	68	105	173.
April - - - - - —	69	31	100.	92	30	122.
May - - - - - —	64	29	93.	79	38	117.
July - - - - - —	33	38	71.	65	42	107.
September - - - —	53	42	95.	88	39	127.
October - - - - —	88	39	127.	99	47	146.
December - - - —	76	47	123.	85	58	143.
January - - - - 1813	76	69	145.	97	74	171.
February - - - —	103	77	180.	126	86	212.
April - - - - - —	79	77	156.	108	84	192.
June - - - - - —	35	69	104.	69	71	140.
July - - - - - —	100	29	129.	123	40	163.
September - - - —	59	49	108.	86	61	147.
October - - - - —	86	61	147.	128	64	192.
December - - - —	154	66	220.	167	69	236.
January - - - - 1814	102	22	124.	122	29	151.
February - - - —	124	10	134.	150	17	167.

JNº A. NEWMAN,
Keeper.

Appendix, No. 5.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS in *Newgate* for Trial, under the Age of Fifteen Years; with the Time and Cause of Commitment, and the Office from whence committed; viz.

NAMES.	Age.	When Committed.	OFFENCES.	Office from whence Committed.
John Clarke -	13.	19 Febʸ 1814 -	Stealing 3 lbs. of Cheese -	Hatton Garden.
Mary Black -	13.	9 March — -	Stealing Printed Cotton -	Worship Street.
Sarah Noble - -	10.	18 —— — -	Stealing a quantity of Halfpence, value 40 *s.* in a Dwelling-house - -	- Ditto.
Thomas Bradbury	11.	29 —— — -	Stealing a leaden Pipe, and two brass Cocks - -	- Ditto.
Eliza Williams -	12.	2 April — -	Uttering counterfeit Money, having before been convicted of a like Offence -	Marlborough Street.
Charlotte Read -	13.	7 —— — -	Stealing a Silver Watch from the person - -	Bow Street.
James Smith -	13.	9 —— — -	Forging an Order for payment of Money - -	Ditto.

JNº A. NEWMAN,
Keeper.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS who have been Tried, and are now under Sentence of Transportation in *Newgate*, under Fifteen Years of Age; viz.

NAMES.	Age.	Sentence.	When Committed.	OFFENCE.	From whence Committed.
Thomas Jones -	13.	Life.	7 Janʸ 1814	Stealing Goods privately in a shop - -	Bow Street.
Thomas Hickey	14.	7 years.	21 Dec. 1813	Stealing a piece of printed Cotton - -	Hatton Garden.
Samuel Fowler -	12.	Life.	2 Febʸ 1814.	Burglary.	Worship Street.
Henry Woolf -	12.	Life.			
Moses Solomons	9.	Life.	8 Febʸ —	A like Offence.	Mansion House.
John Morris -	9.	Life.			
Joseph Burrell -	11.	Life.			

JNº A. NEWMAN,
Keeper.

Appendix, No. 6.

The DUTY of the Reverend Dr. FORDE, Ordinary of *Newgate*, as appointed by the Court of Aldermen.

THAT he perform Divine Service twice every Lord's Day; that in the morning to commence at half past ten, and to preach a Sermon afterwards; and that in the afternoon to commence at half-past two o'clock.—That he read Prayers every Wednesday and Friday morning, and preach a Sermon every other Wednesday.—That he administer the Sacrament once a month at least, and at any other time when he shall think necessary.—That he read Prayers to and exhort the Prisoners under sentence of death, every Tuesday and Thursday; and, after the Report shall have been made to His Majesty, that he attend those ordered for execution, twice a day, and on the morning of execution.—That he perform Divine Service on Good Friday and Christmas Day.—That he attend during the Sessions at the Old Bailey, and perform the duties of the table.—That he hold no other preferment.—That he dwell in the house appointed for the Ordinary for the time being, and resign the Curacy he now holds, at Michaelmas next. To all which, the said Brownlow Forde consented to in this Court, and promised to perform those duties in the manner required, and any others, as shall from time to time be directed by this Court.

June 18th, 1799. RIX.

Appendix, No. 7.

RULES and ORDERS for the better government of that part of the Gaol of *Newgate* for the City of London and County of Middlesex, within the said City, called "The Debtors Side," and of the Prisoners who are or shall be therein, made this Third day of November 1808; by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 32d year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the Relief of Debtors, with respect to the imprisonment "of their Persons, and to oblige Debtors, who shall be in execution in Prison beyond "a certain time, and for Sums not exceeding what are mentioned in the Act, to make "discovery of, and deliver upon, oath their Estates, for the Creditors benefit;" viz.

FIRST.—IT is hereby ordered, That no wine, beer or other liquor, be received in the said gaol after the hour of eight o'clock in the evening; and that no prisoner shall have in his possession at one time, more than one quart of beer or ale, or more than one bottle of wine.

SECOND.—That the prison doors shall be shut between the hours of ten and twelve at noon, and two and four in the afternoon of the Lord's Day, and between the hours of nine and ten at night on that and every other day, when all strangers shall immediately depart the prison, and all the several doors leading to the yard be locked and secured.

THIRD.—That all fires and candles shall be extinguished at or before eleven o'clock at night, except in the Infirmary.

FOURTH.—That one ward shall be set apart for the reception of such persons who by any disorderly or turbulent behaviour, shall become troublesome to, or annoy his fellow prisoners; which ward shall be locked up one hour sooner than the other parts of the prison.

FIFTH.—That no woman shall lodge in the men's wards; nor shall any man lodge in the women's wards, on any pretence whatsoever.

SIXTH.—That if any prisoner shall strike or menace the steward or any of his or her fellow prisoners, or shall use any opprobrious or scurrilous language towards him or them, or to any stranger, or shall throw water or dirt over any or either of them, he or she in anywise so offending, shall be committed to the Felons Side, and there confined in a separate chamber or cell, until satisfaction shall be made to the party aggrieved, unless sooner removed from thence by the sheriffs or keeper.

SEVENTH.—That the steward of the Prison, and all the several stewards of the wards, shall be aiding and assisting to the keeper and turnkeys in enforcing a due observance of these Rules and Orders, and shall give notice to the keeper of any breach thereof, under forfeiture of his or her stewardship.

EIGHTH.—That if any prisoner shall resist the authority of the steward of his ward, in his endeavours to preserve peace and good order among his fellow wardmates, he shall, on a hearing before the keeper or one of the aldermen, be immediately removed to the ward set apart for the reception of disorderly Debtors; and if he repeats such misconduct therein, he he shall then be committed to a separate chamber or cell on the Felons Side, there to remain until his original wardmates shall consent to receive him again, unless previously restored to his former situation by the sheriffs or keeper.

Ninth.—That if any prisoner shall offend against any of these Rules and Orders, he or she shall forthwith be removed to the ward set apart for disorderly Debtors, or to some other separate room or cell, either on the Debtors or Felons Side, there to remain until removed to his or her original ward, by the sheriffs or keeper.

Tenth.—That all persons committed for offences against these Rules to the Felons Side, shall be there supported out of the Charity Fund, at the rate of sixpence per day, for each person, unless it shall appear to the satisfaction of the sheriffs or keeper, that he she or they have ability to support themselves.

Eleventh.—That such Debtors removed by the surgeon's order, to the Infirmary, shall be there supported in the same manner and with the same exception as above written.

Twelfth.—That Court of Conscience Debtors shall be equal partakers, with other poor Debtors, of the benefit arising from all and every the charitable donations and legacies either in provisions or money, to the poor Debtors in Newgate.

Thirteenth.—That upon the discharge or resignation of the steward of the prison, the keeper shall nominate six fit and discreet persons, being prisoners, one of whom shall be chosen by the majority of the prisoners, and shall also be steward of the lower ward on the Master's Side, called The Cabin Side, and he shall remain in office so long as he shall act justly and honestly towards his fellow prisoners, and truly observe and maintain these Rules and Orders.

Fourteenth.—That upon a vacancy of steward or stewardess of any ward in this prison (except the lower ward before mentioned, and except the ward set apart for disorderly Debtors, the steward of which shall be appointed by the keeper alone,) the said keeper shall nominate three persons, one of whom to be chosen by the majority of the prisoners belonging to the ward where such vacancy shall happen, and to remain in office so long as he or she shall act justly and honestly as aforesaid.

Fifteenth.—That the scavenger shall be appointed by the keeper, and dismissed by him upon any just complaint of neglect of duty.

Sixteenth.—That three auditors, being Sheriff's Debtors, shall be freely chosen by the prisoners entitled to the benefit of the charity wards, without the interference of the sheriffs or keeper, who shall examine the state of the poor-box once in every week, and also the steward's account relating to the distribution of the contents thereof, and relating to all other charities, bequests and donations to the poor Debtors once in every month, and report any misapplications to the sheriffs or keeper, who shall immediately give redress, according to the terms of the agreement now in force between the steward and the prisoners entitled to the said benefits; and the said auditors shall receive one shilling each for their trouble in pursuance of this order, every time the said box or boxes shall be opened in the presence of the sheriffs or keeper, or any two of the stewards and one stewardess of the wards, to be chosen by the rest for that purpose, and of which box or boxes one of the said auditors shall have one key and the steward of the prison one other key, and the keeper the padlock and key, by which the said box or boxes shall be affixed to the prison wall in the day-time.

Seventeenth.—That the auditors shall remain in office so long as they shall act justly and for the benefit of the poor Debtors, of whom they are hereby appointed the guardians; and if any person shall have cause to suspect that any benefits, to which the poor are entitled, is unjustly withheld from them, complaint thereof shall be made to the said auditors, who shall immediately investigate the same; and if such complaint shall be well founded, they, the said auditors, shall report the same to the sheriffs or keeper, who shall afford the redress provided by the Rules and Orders.

Eighteenth.—That no visitors shall be permitted to dance, or be present at any free and easy club or other meeting of persons assembled for the purpose of tippling, singing songs, or gaming, within this prison; and upon notice being given at the lobby, of any visitors being assembled for either of the above purposes, that then the inner door of the prison shall immediately be shut, until all the visitors shall have departed, and such visitors shall, upon the muster-roll of prisoners being immediately called for that purpose, forthwith depart the prison.

Nineteenth.—That these Rules and Orders shall be painted upon a board, and hung up in the chapel or some other conspicuous place in the said gaol, to the end that no person may plead ignorance thereof; and so often as the same or any part thereof shall be defaced, the same shall be repainted and hung up as aforesaid, and the expense thereof be paid out of the charity fund.

(Signed) JOHN ANSLEY, Mayor.
GE^{O} SCHOLEY, Alderman.
JN^{O} PERRING.

ELLENBOROUGH, C. J. K. B.
AR. MACDONALD,
Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer.

Appendix, No. 8.

GENERAL RULES for the Government of "The CRIMINAL SIDE" of *Newgate.*

1st.—The Condemned Cells to be opened at nine in the morning, and shut up at two in the afternoon; and visitors admitted between the hours of twelve and two.

2d.—All the wards on the Felons Side to be opened at seven in the morning in summer, and at daylight in winter (except upon particular occasions); and shut up at eight in the evening in summer, and before dusk in winter.

3d.—No visitors admitted among the women, except upon especial occasions; an iron railing having been fixed for convenience of conversation, without intermingling.

4th.—Visitors to the men admitted from nine in the morning until twelve at noon; when male visitors may depart, upon a muster-roll of prisoners being first called over.
The same from twelve till four, when the muster-roll is again called.
Visitors are again admitted from four till seven in the summer; when they must remain until the last muster-roll at eight in the evening: but the female visitors to the men are allowed to depart once in every hour, until six in summer and until four in winter.

5th.—On the State Side all the visitors are allowed to depart once in every hour, upon ringing a bell, in as much as from the fewness of their number the persons of the prisoners are better identified in that department of the prison.

6th.—No beer or other liquor admitted after eight o'clock in the evening, and no prisoner allowed to have more than one quart of beer or one bottle of wine in his possession at one time, and no tippling allowed.

7th.—No visitor admitted into any of the prison yards, upon refusal to submit to any of these Regulations; nor after four in the winter or seven in the summer, unless to untried prisoners.

JNO A. NEWMAN, Keeper.

CONDITIONS of ADMISSION on "The MASTER'S SIDE" of *Newgate.*

1st.—The prisoners to pay thirteen shillings and sixpence, that is to say, ten shillings and sixpence entrance fee, and three shillings for the first week's bed money, (two in a bed) and two shillings and sixpence for every week.

2d.—To caution their male friends that they may retire at every time the muster-roll of prisoners is called over, but not at intermediate times; and to caution their female friends that they may depart at the end of each hour until six in the summer and until dusk in the winter, but not at intermediate times.

3d.—Prisoners for trial, convict prisoners for felony, and prisoners for misdemeanors, not to enter the apartments of each other class respectively.

4th.—To retire from the yard at dusk in winter, and at half past seven in the summer.

5th.—To receive no beer or other liquor after eight in the evening, nor more than one quart of beer or ale, or one bottle of wine at one time, nor any spirituous liquors, unless by the surgeon's order, (in case of sickness.)

6th.—To extinguish all fire and candles before eleven at night.

7th.—To receive no woman to lodge in the men's wards.

8th.—To permit no visitor to dance, tipple, sing songs, or game, in any of the wards.

9th.—To behave orderly and quietly, and not to molest or insult each other, or any visitor.

10th.—To answer to their names every time a muster-roll is called over.

11th.—All prisoners for trial may see their solicitors, in order to prepare for their defence, at any time from nine in the morning until eight in the evening, upon giving timely notice to the turnkeys of the coming of such solicitors for such purpose.

12th.—Any Master Side prisoner neglecting to abide by these conditions, to be removed to the Common Side, where all the above conditions are to be observed, upon pain of being confined in a cell.

HOURS of ADMITTANCE of VISITORS to the Common Side and Master's Side of *Newgate.*

To the Press Yard—From twelve at noon till two in the afternoon.

To the other yards—Sunday morning from nine till ten, afternoon twelve till two; other days, morning from nine till twelve, afternoon from one till dusk in winter, and until seven in summer.

Visitors to depart—From the press yard, at two in the afternoon.
From the other yards—At twelve at noon, four in the afternoon, at or before eight in the evening; after the muster-roll is called over.

Female visitors to the men's yards may depart at the end of each hour, until four in the winter, and until six in the summer.

No visitors admitted among the women except upon especial occasions: An iron railing having been fixed for convenience of conversation, without intermingling; and to which railing their friends may be admitted, from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon in winter, and until seven in the summer.

JNO A. NEWMAN, Keeper.

CONDITIONS of ADMISSION into "The State Side" of *Newgate,* with Rules and Orders to be observed therein.

1st.—The prisoners severally to pay entrance fee, as per table.

2d.—To pay bed money, as per special agreement, two in a bed, at seven shillings per week for each person.

3d.—To receive no beer or other liquors after eight o'clock in the evening; and no more than one quart of beer or ale, or one bottle of wine, at one time.

4th.—To retire from the yard at dusk in the winter, and at eight o'clock in the summer.

5th.—To extinguish all fire and candles before eleven o'clock at night.

6th.—To receive no woman to lodge in the men's wards or rooms.

7th.—To behave orderly and quietly, and not to molest or insult each other, or any visitors.

8th.—To permit no visitor to dance, tipple, sing songs, or game, in any of the apartments.

9th.—To caution their friends, that they may retire at the end of every hour, on the ringing of the bell, but not at intermediate times and all visitors must leave the prison at eight o'clock.

10th.—To answer respectively to their names, every time that a muster-roll of the prisoners is called over.

11th.—To receive no visitors on the Lord's Day from ten till twelve at noon, nor from two till four in the afternoon, and to behave with the sobriety and decorum suitable to that day.

12th.—Not to receive any spirituous liquors, unless by the surgeon's order in case of sickness.

13th.—All prisoners for trial may see their solicitors in order to prepare for their defence, at any time from nine in the morning till eight in the evening, upon giving timely notice to the turnkey of the coming of such solicitors for such purpose.

14th.—Prisoners for trial, convict prisoners for felony, and prisoners for misdemeanor, not to enter the apartment of each other class respectively.

15th.—Hours of admission of visitors from nine in the morning till seven in the evening in summer, and till dusk in winter.

16th.—Any prisoner neglecting to abide by these several conditions, to quit his room on the State Side, and be removed to the common prison of the class of prisoners to which he may belong, and continuing there to misbehave in like manner, to be confined in a cell, until released from thence by the sheriff or keeper.

JNO A. NEWMAN, Keeper.

Appendix, No. 9.

REPORT of a Committee of the Corporation of London, on Sir Richard Phillips's Publication, relating to the Prisons of the City.

SMITH, Mayor.—A Common Council holden in the Chamber of the Guildhall, of the City of London, on Wednesday the 6th day of June 1810.

The Committee for General Purposes, did this day, deliver into this Court, a Report in writing under their hands, on Sir Richard Phillips's Publication, in relation to the Prisons within this City; which was read, and the consideration thereof adjourned; and it is ordered that the said Report be printed, and a copy thereof sent to every Member of this Court.

Woodthorpe.

To the Right honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons, of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed of your Committee for General Purposes, to whom it was referred on the 21st day of June last, to examine into the allegations contained in a Publication, by Sir Richard Phillips, Knt. late one of the Sheriffs, of this city and county of Middlesex, addressed to the Livery of London, relative to the state of the different Gaols of this city and the Fees taken by the respective keepers, and to report our opinion thereon; do certify, That we referred the same to a Sub-Committee who have accordingly made a report to us, which we have caused to be hereunto annexed; and as far as the enquiries of that Sub-Committee have gone, they found the said Publication of Sir Richard Phillips to have been correct; and we unanimously agreeing with the Sub-Committee in their said report, submit the same to the judgment of this honourable Court. Dated this 16th day of May 1810.

Jnº Pullen, J. Jacks, Joseph Daw, Robᵗ Waithman, Char. Aldridge, James Brooks, Wᵐ Child, J. R. Mander, Wᵐ Rawlins, Jonathan Delver, Samuel Thomas, Wᵐ Jnº Reeves, Thomas Bell, Edw. Wigan, Jnº Ord, Jacob Boak, Jnº Hamman.

To the Worshipful Committee for General Purposes.

WE, whose names are hereunto subscribed of your Sub-Committee, to whom it was referred to take into consideration the Order of Reference from the Court of Common Council of the 21st day of June last, to examine into the allegations contained in a Publication by Sir Richard Phillips, Knt. late one of the Sheriffs of this city and county of Middlesex, addressed to the Livery of London, relative to the state of the different Gaols of this city, and the Fees taken by the respective keepers, and to report our opinion thereon; do certify, That, in order more effectually to carry into execution the wishes of the Court, we applied to Matthew Wood, Esq. and John Atkins, Esq. Sheriffs, for their permission to view the prisons, and to make such enquiries as might be deemed necessary, with which request those gentlemen immediately complied, and informed us by letter, that they had given directions to the Keepers of the several Gaols in this city, confided to their care, to attend us whenever we might think proper to view the same for the purposes of our enquiry: cloathed with this authority, we proceeded to the gaol of Newgate (without any previous notice whatever to the Keepers) conceiving that prison called for our earliest and most serious attention. We found Mr. John Addison Newman, the keeper, at home, and were attended by him and his clerk, when we inspected the said prison and made such enquiries relating to the accommodation, fixed regulations, and the account of fees of the prison, together with the use of irons, as appeared to us best adapted to obtain the object of our investigation, and which visit we afterwards repeated at several times. From our examination it appeared to us, that the goal of Newgate, upon its present construction, is by no means equal to the accommodation required for the average number of prisoners usually confined therein, particularly in that part appropriated for female criminals: And in September Sessions last, there were five hundred and fifteen prisoners, one hundred and eighty-two of whom were debtors; but Mr. Newman has known (while Mr. Akerman was keeper) one thousand prisoners to have been confined at one time in that gaol; and in the years 1789, and 1790, there were from eight to nine hundred. In times of peace there is a far greater number of prisoners than in periods of war; but the average number during war, is from four to five hundred; and at particular times, such as the commencement of the different Sessions, they considerably exceed that proportion. Newgate will conveniently accommodate only four hundred and ninety prisoners; viz. three hundred male, and eighty female criminals, with ninety-four male and sixteen female debtors; but the great space of ground upon which that prison stands, may be rendered capable of containing a greater number, by allowing a more equal proportion of room for each prisoner indiscriminately.

That,

That, during the time of war, it frequently happens there are as many female criminals as male; and in September Sessions last, there were out of three hundred and thirty-three criminals, one hundred and sixty females, and the accommodation in the prison being only calculated for eighty females, the keeper had no other resource than that of appropriating a part of the male side for the females, after the men were locked up, and removing them back again to their own side, previous to the doors of the men's wards being unlocked for the day, which was attended with great inconvenience and difficulty; and great distress was nevertheless experienced during the day, from so many females being necessarily compelled to be together in the confined space allotted for them. That from the present appropriation of the several yards and wards of the gaol, although at present and between the times of holding the Sessions, considerable accommodation is afforded the male criminals as to space, Mr. Newman stated he could not separate the unconvicted from the convicted, however trifling the cause of the confinement of the former, or however great the crime for which the latter is suffering punishment, with the exception of those who have received the sentence of death, and who are confined by themselves in a part of the prison denominated the Press Yard; and notwithstanding the great space allotted to the male criminals, yet for a short time previous to and during the Sessions, their number is frequently greater than can possibly be accommodated in that prison.

That having examined Mr. Newman with respect to the debtors confined in Newgate, he stated, the number at present confined there was far too great for the space allotted to them, and he expressed considerable doubt of any practical benefit resulting to that description of prisoner, from any possible alteration or regulation of the present gaol, on account of many preferring Newgate, even in its present state, to any other prison, who therefore do not take those steps which would remove them to more comfortable places of confinement; and that if any enlargement was to take place in that part of the prison, he conceives more prisoners would be induced to remain there.

Mr. Newman further represented to us, that in the necessarily confined state of the prison, fevers and other contagious disorders were always to be apprehended; but every possible precaution is taken for their prevention, by frequently washing the several yards by the means of leathern hose, and by lime-waſhing the different wards and walls, and by frequent fumigations of vitriolic acid and nitre, with tar-water, or vinegar. Notwithstanding, when the numbers exceed six hundred, fevers and other disorders make their appearance, which, without great care and attention, would be attended with serious and dangerous consequences to the health of the prisoners, and ultimately to the health of the metropolis.

On the subject of irons, we find they are put on every person when delivered as a felon into the custody of the keeper of Newgate; and Mr. Newman stated, that the use of irons is absolutely necessary for safe custody, inasmuch as it would be impossible for the keepers to know the prisoner without them, particularly when newly committed to their care, especially whilst strangers are indiscriminately admitted to visit the prisoners during their confinement; but that if strangers were prohibited from mixing with the criminals, Mr. Newman conceives irons would not be so necessary. Under the present regulations he has not the power of excluding strangers, except in cases of emergency; and when any escape is apprehended, he is under the necessity of locking up all persons whether visitors or otherwise, until a strict examination has taken place, and the apprehension is removed. That in the present mode of taking the prisoners to trial, when so many are ordered by the Court to be brought up at one time, irons are also absolutely necessary; it being otherwise difficult for the keepers to distinguish and take care of their prisoners, among so many persons as are usually assembled in and about the passages and the court during the Sessions, many of whom are friends and acquaintance of the prisoners, who would doubtless aid their escape if a favourable opportunity offered. But that if five or six only were brought up at one time, he conceives irons would not be necessary, and would then be not at all used for the prisoner during the time of his trial. That no money whatever, either in fee or otherwise, is taken to his knowledge for not putting irons on the prisoners, or for removing them when in the prison; and he conceives if it were so, and the prisoner should afterwards make his escape, it would be given in evidence against him (the keeper) for a wilful escape, and he should suffer accordingly; but that although he has no knowledge of money being taken for this indulgence, he believes the under-keepers do receive some gratuities for what is denominated indulgencies.

That no one, however, presumes to remove the irons from any prisoner without having his permission, and that he usually grants this indulgence to prisoners who have been sometime in the prison, and are well known to the keeper; and who during the time of their confinement have behaved themselves quietly and orderly, in such a manner as to warrant the risk he runs by so doing; and that one of the conditions of this indulgence is, that they should assist every morning in cleaning out the wards and scouring the floors.

That no alteration has taken place in the fees received by the Keeper, since the year 1729.

And we find, that a number of the fees are not paid by the prisoners themselves, particularly the fees of all criminals pardoned to go for soldiers, which are paid by Government; and that it sometimes happens a prisoner may be detained after a free pardon has been received, for not having paid the fees, (but never more than two or three days) and whenever the keeper can ascertain that the nonpayment of fees arises from the poverty of the party, he instantly remits them and they are discharged: But some convicts, as soon as the pardon

is

is known to have been obtained, notwithstanding the previous great anxiety they have felt, and the quiet and decent deportment with which they have conducted themselves, to induce the keeper when called upon to speak well of their characters, and after the great trouble which is necessarily given to the keeper, in the communications with the office of His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department; instantly set the keeper at defiance, and refuse to pay the fees, however capable they or their immediate friends and connections may be of discharging them. And although the fees are one of the principal sources of the emoluments of his office, Mr. Newman conceives the remitting them to many of the prisoners at his discretion, enables him to execute the duties of his office in a much better manner and at a less expense than he could otherwise possibly do; as many of the prisoners, knowing that the keeper occasionally remits the fees, are induced from their inability to pay them, to behave themselves in such a decent and orderly manner towards the other prisoners and the keepers, as may gain his favour in the hope of his remitting them; and by these means he is enabled to make watchmen and gate-keepers, in the internal parts of the prison, of those who so behave themselves, without employing other persons for that purpose. And in point of profit, the keeper would most assuredly prefer a fixed salary in lieu of all fees whatever; but he conceives it would be impossible to regulate and govern the goal of Newgate as it is at present constituted, without taking fees, and having that power and discretion in respect to them that he now enjoys.

That we, your Sub-Committee, are fully convinced of the necessity of enlarging the goal of Newgate, or of making some very material alterations therein, particularly in that part appropriated to the female criminals; and we conceive that the inconvenience may be partially amended during the day, by admitting the women to make use of the passage leading from the Gaol to the Bail Docks, to which there is already a communication from the female side of the prison; and no fear of an escape can exist, if proper fences are placed at the top of the external wall; but during the night we see no means of remedying the inconvenience and danger, other than by removing them to other parts of the prison, or of greatly enlarging the space now allotted to them; and having observed that the windows of the upper wards appropriated to the females were glazed, and those of the lower one in which the far greater number is confined, were open, having iron bars only; we requested Mr. William Hutchinson Box, the Surgeon of the prison, to report to us in writing his opinion of the State of the Gaol, and what inconveniences he has experienced in the course of his practice there, particularly to state his opinion with respect to the glazing the windows in the prison; and he having made that report, we have annexed the same for the information of this Committee, (vide Appendix, No. I.) And upon seriously considering the same, we fully agree therewith, and do particularly recommend the modes pointed out by him with respect to the windows, to be adopted; viz. by Venetian shutters or casements hung within-side the wards, covered with strong cartouch paper, which may be opened in the day-time at the pleasure of the prisoners, and closed at night, so as to exclude the wet and cold. And with respect to those parts of the prison appropriated to the male criminals, we are of opinion, that though at this time the space allotted to them is very considerable, there are times, particularly at the approach of almost every Session, when they have not the requisite accommodation; and we conceive that in the event of a peace, it will be totally inadequate to the number to be expected, and the most serious ill consequences must be apprehended therefrom.

That in the course of our examination of the prison, we observed one of the great causes of the crowded state of the goal, arose from the number of persons confined there who had received sentence of transportation, and which we conceive would be greatly relieved, if more frequent drafts were made for sending them to the place of their destination, or to some other place of confinement, particularly from the women. In September last there were seventy-two men and forty-eight women, who had received sentence of transportation, confined in the prison, some of whom had received their sentence more than twelve months previously, but upon enquiry we found the greater part of them were under the consideration of His Majesty's mercy.

That we also observed sundry prisoners confined there as lunatics, eight of whom are entered as such, and four of them not entered, but who have become so subsequently to their trial. We were deeply impressed, with not only the lamentable situation of those distressing objects in a crowded prison, but the apparent inhumanity of exposing them to the constant sport and ridicule of such characters as are there confined; and we conceive some strong representation should be made to His Majesty's Government, for a separate place of confinement to be provided for such persons, where proper care may be bestowed on them, which it is impossible can be done in the gaol of Newgate.

We, your Sub-Committee, on viewing that part of the prison appropriated to the Debtors, could not help noticing the great inconvenience and danger that must also be there experienced from the inadequacy of the space allotted to them, there being then nearly two hundred debtors, male and female, in the place calculated for one hundred and ten only; but we, your Sub-Committee, experience a considerable difficuly in recommending an enlargement of that part of the prison as it is at present constituted, notwithstanding they feel that every accommodation, consistent with the nature of a prison, ought to be afforded to that description of prisoners, who (as Sir Richard Phillips has expressed in his publication) "Having broken no moral law, most of them victims of misfortunes, "and many of them confined for exceedingly small debts, depressed by want and every "privation, are thus thrown together, without regard to their difference of education, to

"their

" their various habits of life, or to their degrees of religious or moral feeling." But impressed with this conviction, we are strongly induced to recommend a separate prison to be provided for the exclusive confinement of Debtors, and the whole of Newgate being appropriated for the imprisonment of Criminals, by which we have every reason to hope those inconveniences and dangers, which are to be apprehended from a crowded gaol, would be removed; and, feeling the great impropriety and injustice of placing persons committed to take their trial on suspicion only of offences, with prisoners who have been convicted, and of allowing that general and uninterrupted intercourse between them, which may tend to the total corruption of the morals of the former, and to the annihilation of any good principles that may yet be left within them, and cannot be attended with any beneficial purpose whatsoever, we conceive, by this means, those prisoners who are brought there previous to taking their trials, might be kept separate from those felons who have been convicted, and are suffering the sentence of the law.

We also feel, with extreme concern, the practice of putting irons indiscriminately on all prisoners committed to the custody of the keeper of Newgate previously to their taking their trial and being convicted, and which at times must fall on persons who are perfectly innocent of the offences with which they are charged, and must greatly distress their minds and aggravate the misery of a confinement in a gaol; but we, your Committee, have to lament that, from the representation of the keeper and the most serious consideration we have been enabled to give the subject, they cannot altogether be dispensed with under the present regulations of the gaol of Newgate.

Whilst it appears on one hand that irons are deemed absolutely indispensable for the security of prisoners in Newgate, and on the other side it is evidently an excessive hardship to put prisoners in irons on their commitment, who may afterwards prove innocent of the offence charged against them; the only alterations seem to be, either to exclude visitors entirely from the prisoners, or to continue the present system of irons: The Committee conceive that the former would be inconsistent with every principle of humanity or justice, and might deprive the prisoners of the consolation of seeing their dearest friends or relations, or of taking such measures as may be necessary for their defence in the event of their trial; and as irons they fear must be resorted to, they ought, in all cases of commitment, to be of the lightest kind consistent with safe custody; and that the keepers shall in no instance double-iron that description of prisoner, except in cases of outrage, or by the order of some one of the magistrates or the sheriffs.

That we, your Sub-Committee, beg leave further to report, that we observed several persons, within the prison, who were allowed by the sheriffs and the keeper to dispose of sundry articles, such as meat and green grocery to the prisoners; and having inspected their several weights and scales, and tried them with those kept by the keeper, we found some of them not so correct as they ought to be, and do therefore recommend that in future no scales be allowed to be used within the prison, for the sale of necessaries to the prisoners, but such as have been tried by the keeper, nor any weights without being regularly stampt, agreeably to law. That your Committee also found the prices of the necessaries were the same as without the prison, and no other advantage whatever was obtained, but a fair profit upon the articles disposed of; and that the beer, from which it was supposed a greater profit was made by the sale to the prisoners than ought to be, we found was sold at the gate at the same price as without the prison, and that the allowance to the person who superintended the sale of it was made by the publican who supplied the beer under the directions of the sheriffs.

That we, your Sub-Committee, having taken into consideration the present fees received by the keeper of Newgate, and finding no alteration has taken place therein since the year 1729; we recommend that if fees are to be continued, it should be submitted to the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, in whom the power rests of making any alteration in the said fees, to take the same into their consideration, and to make such alterations as they may think proper, consistent with the times and the situation of the parties who are to pay them; and we, your Sub-Committee, having been informed that by an order of the Court of Aldermen, the number of prisoners confined in Newgate and the Compters, together with the state of those prisons certified by the surgeon, is laid before that Court at every meeting, upon enquiry we found that any prisoners detained for not having paid their fees are not included, but which we are of opinion ought always to be done, and especially named.

That we, your Sub-Committee, also viewed Giltspur-street Compter and Ludgate Prison, and were attended by Mr. John Teague the keeper, and we observed that Giltspur-street Compter was every way calculated for the purposes for which it was originally erected, and that the prisoners confined there are much better accommodated than in any other prison within the City, and the only thing complained of was the amount of fees paid by the debtors, which, upon enquiry, we find is regulated by the Judges and the Magistrates at the sessions, and no alteration has been made in them for some time past; but we, your Sub-Committee, have to state, that in consequence of the Act of Parliament which passed so long ago as the year 1804, for removing the debtors from the Poultry Compter, on account of its then decayed and dangerous condition to the Giltspur-street Compter, that prison is occasionally so crowded, that great danger is to be apprehended to the health of the same, particularly in hot weather, notwithstanding the numerous conveniencies which it possesses; and Mr. Luke Hodgson, the surgeon, having made a Report in writing to us, relative to the Compters, we have caused the same to be hereunto annexed for the information of of this worshipful Committee, (vide Appendix, No. II.) And with respect to the Ludgate Prison, we, your Sub-Committee, have to observe, that the space is much too confined for the number of prisoners usually there, and if the Corporation should not think fit to erect a new prison, for the exclusive confinement of debtors, we are of opinion that inconvenience may be partially remedied by the removal of part of the wall, which separates this prison from that part of the Giltspur-street Compter where some of the cells are placed, and which have not been used for a long time past.

That we, your Sub-Committee, on viewing the Poultry Compter, were attended by Mr. Edward Kirby the keeper, and we found the said Compter in a most deplorable and ruinous condition, and by no means a fit place for the confinemen of prisoners of any description. The several persons committed to take their trial are here confined till the Gaol Delivery at the time of each sessions; and the keeper stated, that at the last September sessions, there were fifty felons confined there. The whole of the night charges of the City are brought to this Compter, as well as all vagrants, (Giltspur-street Cŏmpter being at this time appropriated for the confinement of the whole of the debtors belonging to the two Compters) and whatever may be the cause of their confinemment, they cannot be separated from the felons, there being one yard only to the whole prison, in which men, women and children, of all descriptions confined there are compelled to be together; the rooms appropriated to the vagrants, and persons to be passed to their different parishes are not glazed, the windows being open with iron bars only, nor have they any thing to protect them from the weather, or in cases of sickness for their comfort, but what the humanity of the keeper provides for them; and it frequently occurs, particularly after an expedition has sailed, that a number of soldiers wives and children are there placed till they can be properly removed; and some of them in a very ill state of health from fatigue or otherwise; and it has happened that some of them have been so far advanced in pregnancy, as to be confined and delivered in that Compter. No Divine Service has been performed in that Compter for the last five years, and the chapel is now converted into a sleeping place for felons. Irons are put on all prisoners committed for trial, and are never taken off till sent to Newgate, unless directed by the surgeon. There is no regular table of fees at this Compter, and they are regulated by custom only; that the keeper frequently remits the fees, and no person is detained for the nonpayment of them. Under all the circumstances, we are decidedly of opinion that the present Poultry Compter is not at all calculated for the confinement of prisoners, nor, from its present ruinous state, can the same be rendered fit for that purpose. And we are further of opinion, that from the present state of the buildings in the vicinity of this Compter, and its confined situation, from being entirely surrounded by private residences, that the present scite is a very improper and insecure situation for a prison, and that the same ought to be erected in a more open and unconnected space, as we found no less than three notoriously bad characters had lately effected their escape from this prison.

That we, your Sub Committee, upon a review of all the circumstances, are deeply impressed with the absolute necessity that exists of a new prison being provided in lieu of the present Poultry Compter; and, after the most mature consideration, are unanimously of opinion, that the said prison should be erected on a much larger space than the present Compter occupies, and in a situation more unconnected with buildings, and that the same should be solely appropriated to the confinement of debtors under proper regulations, allotting different spaces in the same for the different descriptions of debtors; for the county debtors who are now confined in Newgate; for the city debtors who are confined in the Giltspur-street Compter; and for those debtors who are usually confined in Ludgate; by which means Newgate will be relieved from a large portion of prisoners, and may be rendered fully adequate to the purposes required, with some internal alteration only, and without any further enlargement; and the keeper will probably be then enabled to make that separation of the prisoners confided to his care, which justice and humanity so loudly calls for: Giltspur-street Compter, with the addition of the present Ludgate prison, and by removing the Sheriff's offices to the New Prison, will be thereby rendered fully adequate to all the purposes of the confinement of persons (committed to take their trial) previous to the gaol delivery at each sessions of Oyer and Terminer, for prisoners committed to the Quarter Sessions, and for night charges and vagrants, with very little internal alteration and expense. And we are of opinion, that in the Compter, where prisoners are confined only previously to taking their trial, or committed some for offences at the Quarter Sessions, the same regulations with respect to irons might be adopted, as above recommended, for persons committed to Newgate.

That we, your Sub-Committee, having duly considered the circumstance of fees being taken by the different keepers of the prisons within this city, are of opinion the same should be abolished; and that the keepers and their assistants should receive fixed salaries in lieu thereof, so that no partiality should be shewn to any description of prisoner; but should this Worshipful Committee or the Court of Common Council differ with us in this opinion, we think it should be strongly recommended to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, to take into their immediate and serious consideration the present fees, and make such suitable alterations therein as to them shall seem advisable.

That we, your Sub-Committee, have forborne to make any further remarks on what has occurred at our various views, and on the circumstances which have come to our knowledge during our investigation, leaving it to the judgment of this Worshipful Committee and the Corporation at large to see the evident necessity of adopting some new disposition of the prisons within this city, and conceiving the mode recommended by us will obviate most of the

the difficulties, and remove those serious evils which have been so long complained of; but having, as we trust it will appear, bestowed much time and attention on this very important subject, have only to lament that we cannot suggest a plan for effecting a substantial moral reform in the conduct of prisoners, during their confinement in the present gaols of this City, owing to their confined space, the great number of commitments continually arising in a large and crowded metropolis, and the frequency of the sessions of Gaol Delivery; and we are not aware that any plan to produce such desirable effect can be suggested, beyond that of separating convicted felons from those newly committed, unless a house of correction was to be provided for the minor classes of offenders, which have been found so highly beneficial in amending the conduct of criminal prisoners in various county gaols of this kingdom. We trust, however, that the suggestions we have already made, if adopted under the vigilant superintendence of the magistrates and sheriffs of this city, will produce some beneficial consequences to the morals as well as the comforts of all classes of prisoners, and ultimately to the health and safety of this metropolis. All which we submit to the judgment of this Worshipful Committee. Dated this 16th day of May 1810.

Thomas Bell, Edw. Wigan, Wm Jno Reeves, J. Jacks, J. R. Mander, W. Pritchard, Jno Ord.

Appendix, No. I.—Mr. BOX's Report, to the Worshipful the Committee for especial General Purposes.

Gentlemen,

IN answer to the letter I had the honour to receive by your order from Mr. Town Clerk, desiring my opinion as to the general state of His Majesty's gaol of Newgate; and also, as to the necessity of glazing the same, and any other inconveniences which may have arisen, or are now existing in the said gaol; I beg respectfully to offer the following observations:—

It is certainly most obvious that the space allotted to the debtors and women felons, is perfectly inadequate to the number of prisoners; and it is a matter of much surprise how those sides of the prison are preserved from typhus or infectious fever; when it is considered the average of prisoners, the last year, greatly exceeded the calculation of Sir Richard Phillips.

On this consideration I have not the least hesitation in asserting the absolute necessity of enlarging the prison. The opening the passage to the Bail Dock would be in a degree beneficial, but by no means afford that relief the exigencies of the case require.

Sir Richard Phillips, I conceive, had not during his sheriffalty a complete opportunity of ascertaining the insufficiency of the accommodations on the male felons side; his observations having been made during a period of war; when male prisoners, from obvious causes, are not so numerous; had it been otherwise, I have no doubt similar inconveniences would have been apparent on that side, as existed during the short interval of peace.

Having said thus much as to the expediency of enlarging the prison, I beg most respectfully to offer my opinion as to the necessity of classing the prisoners; and more especially separating the convicted from those for trial, as a subject of the highest importance.

In the article of cleanliness, lime-washing has always been in use, but not to the extent adopted by Sir Richard Phillips. I perfectly agree with that gentleman as to its great utility; but feel it my duty to suggest the necessity of mixing some colouring matter with the wash used in the yards, as the sun's rays reflected from the white produce the most painful sensations in the eyes, and often occasion opthalmy.

As to my opinion respecting glazing the windows, I am much concerned I am obliged to differ from Sir Richard Phillips, and I do this with more reluctance, when I perceive the respectable opinions of Drs. Babington and Adams countenancing the measure; but had I met those gentlemen, from the intimate knowledge I have of the tempers of the prisoners, their proneness to quarrels and violence, and general depravity, I have no doubt I should have convinced them of its dangerous tendency, more especially on the women's side, where the greatest difficulty is experienced in obliging them to open the casements sufficient to dissipate the confined heat and air.

The method I have hitherto adopted has been to defend the wards from the inclemency of the weather, at the approach of winter, by a covering of oiled paper, which has answered perfectly well.

As I consider casements properly regulated a perpetual ventilation, there is another method which strikes me, as peculiarly meeting the exigency of the case, it is a strong Venetian shutter capable of being confined open or shut at the discretion of the attendants.

Having thus (I fear with much tediousness) detailed my opinion of the general economy of the goal, I beg leave to advert to a subject more immediately connected with my official duty.

The health of the prisoners.

From the crowded state of the gaol, without proper bedding or sufficient clothing, and under circumstances of disease and poverty, a very considerable portion of sickness must prevail, and demand of the surgeon a most laborious, painful and hazardous duty; but though this is the case, he can with confidence assert, the average of sickness and mortality for the last five years has, under Providence, been most favourable; this is chiefly attributable to the excellent regulations laid down by the Honourable the Court of Aldermen for the conduct of the medical attendant; and the humane and honourable discretion allowed him, in supplying the sick with every necessary support during the progress of the disease, and the wholesome accommodations provided in the several infirmaries.

Hoping the above opinions may coincide with those of this Worshipful Committee, I beg to subscribe myself, with much respect,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. H. BOX.

Appendix, No. II.—Mr. HODGSON's Report, to the Chairman of the Special Committee of General Purposes.

Sir,

IN order to give full effect to your Report, I thought it proper to lay before you proceedings, at the time the necessity of building a new Compter was under consideration, and it will be found upon comparing my opinion with the statement of Sir Richard Phillips's book, addressed to the Livery, there is a concurrence of sentiment relative to the state of the prisons, and the necessity of a new prison being built; without any personal communication thereon.

In the year 1804, an Act of Parliament was passed for removing the prisoners from the Poultry to Giltspur-street Compter. I was apprehensive the crowding the prison, would endanger the health of the prisoners; nor was my conjecture wrong, for the state of the prison was changed from health, to disease, from comfort, to unhappiness, which occasioned in March 1805, the following questions, by the Sheriffs, to be addressed to me, and my answers; to which were annexed the opinions of the best authors who had written on gaol, and other contagious diseases, in confirmation of my answers to the propositions:

Question 1. Is the prison, in its present state, capable of receiving and affording accommodation for any greater number of prisoners, without imminent danger to their healths in the present season; and suppose there be no increase, can the present number continue during the summer months, without danger of occasioning an epidemic or other dangerous disease?

Answer. I have thought the prison in Giltspur-street, most judiciously planned both for the health of the prisoners, and safety of the metropolis from contagious fever; and by observation made during four years successively, having been appointed surgeon, that the prisoners were not in general so healthy in the Poultry, as Giltspur-street, arose from the difference of the construction of the buildings.

The prisoners therefore being removed from the Poultry to Giltspur-street, have created an inconvenience, which may lead to dangerous consequences, as the prison, since their removal, has not preserved its usual cleanliness, the first and most necessary object towards the preservation of health, and which principally arises from the quantity of prisoners; and I can perceive their countenances bear an unhealthy appearance, which am satisfied results from the numbers being increased: therefore am persuaded, at the present moment the accommodation is not equal to the quantity of prisoners, and should no epidemic disorder exist, there will require some material alteration, to prevent local distempers being engendered from within.

Question 2. Are there any other inconveniencies in the prison likely to affect the health of the prisoners, or keepers; and are there any alterations, additions, or other measures, necessary to be taken to remedy those inconveniencies?

Answer. There are no inconveniencies but what have been produced by the increase of numbers; which are two:

I. The necessity of many sleeping in the sitting wards.

II. The slinging of hammocks over the beds tends to obstruct the free ingress and egress of the air during the night, as in so close a ward the perspiration naturally increasing during that period, together with the natural circumstances which must be attended to, the air must be rendered very unwholesome, and either in moist or hot weather endanger the health of the prisoners. I submit with deference, a partial relief might be gained by the assistance of ventilators, but it is only to be remedied by enlarging the prison altogether.

March 12, 1805. LUKE HODGSON, Surgeon.

While these questions were under consideration, a Committee of Aldermen was appointed to examine into the state of the prison, and whose report I understand coincided with the above answers.

There only remains a few observations on the continuance of the deplorable state of the Poultry, and the crowded state of the Giltspur-street Compters.

I. The situation of the Poultry for the sick affords no opportunity for the medical attendant to do his duty, and the removing them to the sick ward in the Gitspur-street Compter, would be attended with danger of communicating disease.

II. The prevention of disease in the Giltspur-street Compter results from the assistance of an airy sick ward, which affords the means of separating the sick from the healthy, thereby preventing contagious infection being communicated.

III. Notwithstanding these advantages in the Giltspur-street Compter, I perceive as before stated, the countenances put on a sickly appearance, and the removal of the prisoners at night to the charge rooms to sleep, lays a foundation for chronic rheumatism.

IV. From all the circumstances, it is my firm persuasion nothing but the building a new Compter, will remedy the evils complained of.

I am, Sir,
With the greatest deference and respect,
Your obedient humble servant,
December 18, 1809. LUKE HODGSON.

Appendix, No. 10.

RESOLUTIONS of the Common Council of the City of London, 26th October 1810, relating to *Newgate.*

Resolved, That the Prison of Newgate is inadequate to the purposes required for the average number of Prisoners usually confined therein, particularly for the female prisoners.

Resolved, That it is expedient, and would be highly beneficial, to separate prisoners committed for trial, from convicted felons.

Resolved, That it is expedient, and would be highly beneficial, to remove prisoners for debt from Newgate to some other place of confinement, there being nearly two hundred debtors confined in a space calculated to receive only one hundred and ten, whose removal would afford greater accommodation for criminal prisoners.

Resolved, That the length of time prisoners are detained in Newgate (in some instances 12 months) after being sentenced to transportation, is one great cause of the crowded state of that gaol.

Resolved, That the evil effects arising from the crowded state of the gaols, would be greatly obviated by erecting a House of Correction for the reception of the minor classes of offenders, a measure which has been found highly beneficial to the administration of criminal justice in various parts of the kingdom, and to the moral reform of offenders.

Resolved, That the confinement of lunatics in Newgate, and allowing them to mix with other prisoners, is repugnant to every principle of humanity, and ought to be discontinued.

Resolved, That irons ought, in all cases of commitment, to be of the lightest kind, and that the keepers should in no instance double-iron this description of persons, except in cases of outrage, or by order of some one of the magistrates or the sheriffs.

Resolved, That none of the assistant keepers, menial servants, or other persons belonging to the prisons, should be permitted to receive gratuities from prisoners, for what are denominated indulgences; a practice which, if permitted in any degree to exist, opens a door to every species of abuse and infamous traffick.

Resolved, That Fees of every kind taken by the keepers of prisons, or by clerks or other officers from prisoners, should be entirely abolished, and that a liberal remuneration should be made to the different persons who have hitherto been accustomed to receive those fees, in lieu thereof.

Resolved, That the Poultry Compter is in a most deplorable and ruinous condition, and by no means a fit place for the confinement of prisoners of any description; and that being entirely surrounded by private residences, its present scite is a very improper and insecure situation for a prison, which ought to be erected in a more open and unconnected space.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee for General Purposes, to consider the most speedy and effectual means of giving effect to the preceding Resolutions, and to consider how far they are practicable, and report thereon to this Court.

Appendix, No. 11.

A LIST of FEES taken by the Keeper of the *Poultry* Compter.

	£.	s.	d.
FOR every Debtor who at his own desire shall go on the Master's side -	0.	7.	0.
For the use of bed, bedding and sheets, per week - - - - -	0.	2.	6.
If a Room to him or herself - - - - d° - - - - - -	0.	5.	0.
For every Debtor on being discharged - - - - - - -	0.	8.	10.
For every Person committed for Felony, Misdemeanor or Assault, who at his own desire shall go on the Master's side - - - - - - -	0.	14.	8.
For the use of bed, bedding and sheets, per week - - - - - -	0.	3.	6.
For every Person being bailed or discharged after commitment or conviction	0.	14.	8.
For every Person charged with being disorderly, and other offences, taken into custody in the night, &c. on their discharge the next day before a Magistrate - - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	3.	6.
For every such Person who at their own desire shall have the use of a bed, for the first night - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	2.	0.
If remanded, for every following night - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.

EDW. KIRBY,
Keeper.

Appendix, No. 12.

A RETURN of the FEES payable by the Debtors and Criminals, in the *Giltspur-street* Compter.

	£.	s.	d.
FOR every Debtor who at his own desire shall go on the Master's side, to pay for entrance fee - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	5.	0.
And for the use of bed and bedding each, per week - - - - -	0.	2.	6.
If a Debtor at his own desire occupies a room to himself, to pay for entrance fee - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	10.	0.
And for the use of bed and bedding, per week - - - - - -	0.	5.	0.
For every night charge, or other prisoner on criminal process, who at his own desire shall be accommodated with bed and bedding, to pay for the first night	0.	2.	0
And for every other night - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0
For every such Prisoner who shall choose to be admitted on the Master's side, to pay for entrance fee - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	14.	8
And for the use of bed and bedding, per week - - - - - -	0.	3.	6.
For every night charge who shall be discharged before a Magistrate - -	0.	3.	6.
For every Person committed for Felony or Assault, when bailed and discharged	0.	14.	8.
For the discharge of every Debtor - - - - - - - - -	0.	8.	10.

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper,
April 1, 1814.

Appendix, No. 13.

AN ACCOUNT of BENEFACTIONS, &c. to the *Poultry* Compter.

		£.	s.	d.
To the Debtors,	LADY DAY Quarter	20	13	10
	MIDSUMMER	15	5	7
	MICHAELMAS	20	16	10
	CHRISTMAS	19	2	10
		£.75	19	1

From the Ironmongers, on the 5th November, two pounds of beef to each Debtor, the gift of Mrs. Margaret Dane.

From the Sheriffs to the Debtors six stone of beef weekly

From the Lord Mayor, on Christmas Day, to each Prisoner one pound of beef, half a three-penny loaf, and one pint of beer.

From the Sheriffs on New year's day, the same.

From the Lord Mayor, two chaldrons of coals.

From the Sheriffs, the same.

From the Committee of City Lands, an annual allowance of eight dozen of rugs, and four dozen of canvass ticks.

To each prisoner, 10 ounces of bread daily, and six pounds of potatoes weekly.

EDW. KIRBY,
Keeper.

Appendix, No. 14.

ACCOUNT of the BENEFACTIONS made to the Debtors in the *Giltspur-street* Compter.

	£.	s.	d.
MICHAELMAS Quarter	6	19	4
MIDSUMMER	6	5	7
LADY DAY	20	13	5
CHRISTMAS	19	0	7
	£.52	18	11

The Lord Mayor on Christmas Day gives every Prisoner one pound of meat, one pint of porter, and half a three-penny loaf of bread: Also two chaldrons of coals to be divided among them.

The Sheriffs give the like donation on New year's day.

The Sheriffs also give seven stone of meat weekly.

Mr. Joseph Carter and Mr. Ralph Carter, 17*s.* 1*d.* each, paid by the churchwardens of St. Andrew Undershaft and Allhallows, every other year in beef at Christmas.

Mrs. Margaret Dane, one quarter of beef and five dozen penny loaves annually, November 5th.

Leathersellers Company, quarterly, 91 penny loaves.

Mrs. Margaret Symcott, 60 penny loaves every eight weeks.

The daily allowance of bread to each Prisoner is ten ounces, and six pounds of potatoes weekly.

The Committee of City Lands send annually eight dozen of rugs and four dozen of canvass ticks.

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper.

April 1st. 1814.

Appendix, No. 15.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS which the different Wards of the *Giltspur-street* Compter, in the City of London, (as it is at present occupied by the Prisoners of the *Giltspur-street* and *Poultry* Compters) conveniently contain, and also the Number they now contain; and the greatest number which they have contained at one time in the last year.

DESCRIPTION of the WARDS.	Number of Prisoners they can conveniently contain.	Number of Prisoners they now contain, April 4.	Greatest Number of Prisoners they have contained at one time during the last year.
DEBTORS SIDE.			
Common Side, Debtors; two Wards called Sleeping Wards, one occupied by the Giltspur-street, and the other by the Poultry - - - - -	32	32	32
- D° - D° - two Wards formerly called Night-charge rooms, now used for the Debtors of the two Compters to sleep in - - - - - -	32	26	30
Two Rooms occupied by the Stewards of the two Compters - - - - - - - -	2	2	2
The Chapel was used as a sleeping Ward for the Debtors of the two Compters, previous to their being discharged by the late Insolvent Act -	- - -	- - -	33
Two Day Wards for the accommodation of the above described prisoners - - - - - - -	—	—	—
Master's Side, Debtors; ten rooms for male Debtors of the two Compters - - - - - - -	20	5	15
One other room for the Common Side women Debtors of the two Compters - - - - - -	3	3	6
CRIMINAL SIDE.			
Common Side, women Felons of the two Compters, six cells - - - - - - - - -	12	11	12
Vagrants, and occasionally used for the overplus of the other yards, six cells - - - - - -	12	7	12
Common Side, men Felons of the Giltspur-street Compter, five cells - - - - - -	10	15	15
- D° - D° - Poultry Compter four cells - -	8	10	12
Master's side, men Felons of the Giltspur-street Compter, six small rooms - - - - -	6	6	9
- D° - D° - Poultry Compter, one large room over the Chapel divided into two - - -	8	6	8
One other room over the Chapel used as an Infirmary	—	—	—
	145	123	

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper of the Giltspur-street Compter.
EDWARD KIRBY, Keeper of the Poultry Compter.
April 12, 1814.

Appendix, No. 16.

RULES and ORDERS to be observed by the Prisoners on that side of the prison of the *New Compter* situate in *Giltspur-street,* within the City of London, called "The Common Side," made, framed and set down in writing, this 27th day of November in the year of our Lord 1792, by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 32d year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the relief of Debtors with respect to the imprisonment of "their Persons, and to oblige Debtors who shall continue in execution in Prison "beyond a certain time, and for Sums not exceeding what are mentioned in the Act, "to make discovery of, and deliver upon oath, their Estates for their creditors "benefit."

1st.—That every debtor shall, at his or her first going into the Common Side of the said prison, pay the sum of sixpence to the person acting as scavenger, or in lieu thereof shall assist him for six days, in washing and cleaning the several rooms and yards of the said Common Side; and shall also pay the sum of eight-pence to the steward for oil for the lamps, and that no other demand shall be made under any pretence whatever.

2d.—That all benefactions of provisions by the Sheriffs, and all other persons (except persons keeping taverns) to the prisoners for debt on the said Common Side, shall be laid out by the steward upon the great table provided for that purpose, in equal lots, according to the number of the prisoners; and that the said prisoners shall make their choice in rotation, according to the length of time they have been confined, and the steward shall take last; and if any complaint of partiality in such lots shall be made by the prisoners, or any of them, to the keeper of the said prison, he shall and is hereby ordered to determine the same.

3d.—That all provisions sent to the said prison by any person or persons keeping a tavern or other public house, shall be divided in equal lots, as mentioned in the second order, among the debtors and the several prisoners on the Common Side, committed in execution of judgments for fine and imprisonment, but the debtors shall make choice of the lots before the other prisoners; and they shall all respectively choose in rotation, and the steward take last, as mentioned in the second order.

4th.—That the scavenger shall cleanse the wards and staircase twice in each and every week, and oftener if there shall be occasion, and be required so to do by the keeper; and shall also take away the dirt and ashes every day before the hour of ten in the morning, to the bin provided for that purpose, or forfeit one shilling for such omission.

5th.—That all the prisoners shall attend Divine Service every Sunday, unless prevented by sickness, and shall behave him or herself in a becoming manner there, on pain of not being permitted to partake of the Sheriffs allowance of meat in the next week.

6th.—That every prisoner shall wash him or herself every morning before the hour of ten, on pain of not being permitted to have the usual daily allowance of bread for each and every day he or she shall make default.

7th.—That if any prisoner shall strike or use opprobrious and scurrilous language to his or her fellow prisoner or prisoners, he or she so offending shall be forthwith confined by the keeper in one of the solitary cells of the said prison, for any time not exceeding twelve hours, nor less than three.

8th.—That if any prisoner shall prophanely curse or swear, or get drunk, he or she shall not be permitted to partake of any allowance of meat or bread the next day: And if any prisoner who would not be entitled to partake of any allowance on the next day, shall be guilty of such offences, or either of them, he or she shall be forthwith confined by the keeper in one of the solitary cells of the said prison, for any time time not exceeding twelve hours, nor less than three.

9th.—That if any prisoner shall molest or ill-treat any person or persons visiting his or her fellow prisoner, he or she shall be forthwith confined by the keeper in one of the solitary cells of the said prison, for any time not exceeding twelve hours, nor less than three: And if any person or persons visiting a prisoner shall molest or ill-treat any or either of the prisoners, the steward shall forthwith give notice thereof to the keeper, who shall oblige such person or persons to depart the said prison.

10th.—That no woman shall be permitted to lodge in the men's wards, neither shall any man lodge in the women's wards, on any pretence whatever.

11th.—That no dog shall be kept by any or either of the prisoners within the said prison.

12th.—That every person shall air his rug and other bedding at least three times a week, or in default thereof, shall not be permitted to partake of the Sheriffs allowance of meat and bread, for and during the space of five days then next following.

13th.—That if it shall appear, to the satisfaction of the Sheriffs, that any prisoner is entitled to his discharge, but neglects or refuses to apply for it, he shall not be permitted to partake of any allowance whatsoever; neither shall any prisoner receive any allowance whatsoever, if it also shall appear, to the satisfaction of the said Sheriffs, that he or she has an income sufficient to maintain him or herself and family (if any) without.

14th.—That no prisoner shall be permitted to have in his possession, at any one time, more than one quart of beer or ale.

15th.—That all the fire and candles in the said prison shall be put out every night, at or before the hour of eleven; and if any person shall wantonly disturb his or her fellow prisoner or prisoners after they shall be gone to rest, he or she shall be confined by the keeper in one of the solitary cells, for any time not exceeding twelve hours, nor less than six.

16th.—That every prisoner (except in case of sickness) shall quit his or her barrack every morning before the hour of nine; and the steward's assistant for the day, called The Twelver, shall immediately afterwards set open the windows of all and every the wards appropriated for the prisoners to rest in (except where the sick are kept,) and shall keep them open all the morning, in order to let fresh air therein. And no prisoner shall smoak tobacco, or eat or drink (except in case of sickness) in any of the said wards appropriated for the prisoners to rest in, on pain of not being permitted to partake of any allowance of meat or bread the next day.

17th.—That the turnkeys shall not permit any of the prison doors or gates to be opened on the Lord's Day, from the hours of ten to twelve in the forenoon, and from three to five in the afternoon.

18th.—And whereas great numbers of persons are brought into the said prison by process issuing out of the Court of Requests, and it has been doubted whether such persons are entitled to the same allowance as the other debtors; it is therefore ordered, That they shall be equal partakers with the other debtors, subject to the first and thirteenth articles.

19th.—That if any prisoner shall strike the steward, or deface these Orders, he shall, for either of such offences, be forthwith confined by the keeper twelve hours in one of the solitary cells. And if the steward for the time being shall get intoxicated, he shall forfeit the sum of five shillings, and shall forthwith pay the same to the keeper; or in default thereof, another person shall be appointed steward in his place.

20th.—That all forfeitures shall be equally divided among such debtors as are liable to be fined; and the same shall be divided the last Saturday in the month.

21st.—That the Chaplain shall perform Divine Service, and preach a sermon every Sunday morning, the service to commence at the hour of ten; and four times in each year, viz. the first Sunday after every quarter day, he shall administer the Sacrament; and that he do also attend the sick persons when required.

22d.—That the keeper of the said prison and his deputy, or at least one of them, shall attend Divine Service every Sunday morning.

23d.—That every person entrusted with a rug, who shall sell, pawn, or otherwise dispose of the same, shall not be permitted to partake of any allowance whatsoever made by the Sheriffs, until such rug shall be restored or replaced.

24th.—And to compel a due and punctual observance of these Rules, it is ordered, That the keeper of the said prison shall visit the several wards once a day at the least; and on every Monday morning deliver to the Sheriffs for the time being a report in writing of the state of the prison, and of any breach of these Rules in the preceding week.

BRASS CROSBY.
JOHN W^m ANDERSON.
H. C. COMBE.

KENYON.
LOUGHBOROUGH.

A true copy.
John Teague, Keeper,
April 4, 1814.

RULES and ORDERS to be observed by the Prisoners on that side of the Prison of the New Compter situate in *Giltspur-street*, within the City of London, called "The Master's Side," made, framed and set down in writing this 27th day of November in the year of our Lord 1792, by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the 32d year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the Relief of Debtors with respect to the imprisonment of "their Persons, and to oblige Debtors who shall continue in execution in Prison "beyond a certain time, and for Sums not exceeding what are mentioned in the "Act, to make discovery of, and deliver upon oath, their Estates for their Creditors "benefit."

1st.—That every prisoner shall wash and keep his room clean, and in default thereof, the said keeper shall be at liberty to remove every such prisoner to the Common Side of the said prison, for any time not exceeding one month.

2d.—That the prisoners in rotation shall sweep or cause to be swept the staircase and passages leading to the Master's Side three times, and also to wash the same once, in each week.

3d.—That every prisoner shall carry or cause to be carried his ashes and dirt to the common bin, before the hour of ten o'clock in the morning.

4th.—That if any prisoner shall strike or use opprobrious language, or shall profanely curse, swear, or shall get drunk, the said keeper shall be at liberty to remove every such prisoner to the said Common Side of the said prison, there to remain for any time not exceeding one month.

5th.—That if it shall happen that every prisoner cannot be accommodated with a room, in that case the person shall be placed in the apartment of the junior prisoner.

6th.—That no wine or beer shall be received into the said prison, after the hour of eight o'clock in the evening.

7th.—That all persons removed to the Common Side shall, during their continuance there, be subject to all the Rules and Orders to which prisoners on such Common Side are hereby subjected.

8th.—That these several Rules and Orders shall be painted on a board in legible characters, and hung up in a conspicuous part of the Master's and Common Sides of the said prison; and when and so often as any part thereof shall be obliterated or defaced, the same shall be forthwith repainted, to the end that no person or persons may plead ignorance thereof.

KENYON.
LOUGHBOROUGH.

BRASS CROSBY.
J. W. ANDERSON.
H. C. COMBE.

A true copy.

John Teague, Keeper,
April 4, 1814.

Appendix, No. 17.

A RETURN of the FEES payable by the DEBTORS in the Prison of *Ludgate*.

	£.	s.	d.
Every prisoner, on entrance into the Prison, to pay to the keeper	0.	1.	0.
D° on discharge, to the keeper	0.	2.	0.
And to the turnkey	0.	1.	0.
And for every week he has been confined, for chamber rent	0.	0.	3.

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper,
April 1st, 1814.

Appendix, No. 18.

ACCOUNT of the BENEFACTIONS made to the DEBTORS in the Prison of *Ludgate*.

	£.	s.	d.
MICHAELMAS Quarter	6	11	4
MIDSUMMER	7	0	1
LADY DAY	51	0	5
CHRISTMAS	22	14	11
	£.87	6	9

The

The Lord Mayor, on Christmas-day, gives every prisoner one pound of meat, one pint of porter, and half a three-penny loaf of bread; also, one chaldron of coals, to be divided among them.

The Sheriffs give the like donation on New-year's day.

Mr. Thomas Cottle gave yearly for ever a hind quarter of beef and a peck of oatmeal on Michaelmas eve, by the churchwardens of St. Dunstan's in the East.

Lady North gave yearly for ever, 13 *d.* in bread, and twelve loaves every quarter; sent in three-penny loaves every fortnight.

Mrs. Margaret Dane, d°, 18 stone of beef, and 5 dozen of bread, by the Ironmongers Company, at Michaelmas.

Mr. Robert Rogers, leatherseller, 20 *s.* to be paid quarterly in bread.

Mrs. Margaret Symcott, 65 penny loaves every eighth week.

Mr. Robert Firebrace, 6 *s.* 8 *d.* yearly, to be paid quarterly in bread.

The Lord Mayor gives 10 stone of meat weekly.

The daily allowance of bread to each prisoner is 10 ounces, and 6 lbs. of potatoes weekly.

The Committee of City Lands send annually four dozen of rugs.

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper,
April 1, 1814.

Appendix, No, 19.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS which the different Wards of the Prison of *Ludgate*, in the City of London, conveniently contain; and also the number they now contain; and the greatest number which they have contained at one time in the last year.

DESCRIPTION of the WARDS.	Number of Prisoners they can conveniently contain.	Number of Prisoners they now contain, April 4.	Greatest number of Prisoners they have contained at one time during the last year.
Long Room - - - - - - - -	6	6	8
Shakespear - - - - - - - -	2	2	4
Small room on the staircase - - - - -	1	1	1
King's Arms - - - - - - - -	2	2	4
Blue Lion - - - - - - - -	2	2	4
Two small rooms, set apart for the sick - - -	2	2	4
Chapel, used as a sleeping room previous to the Act -	- - -	- - -	6
Hall, used as a day-room - - - - -	—	—	—
Steward's room - - - - - - -	2	1	3
Room adjoining d° - - - - - - -	2	1	3
Women's room - - - - - - -	2	1	3
Room's adjoining d° - - - - - -	2	1	2
Small room on the staircase - - - - -	1	1	2
	24	20	44

There are no felons in the said Prison.

JOHN TEAGUE, Keeper,
April 12, 1814.

Appendix, No. 20.

RULES and ORDERS for the better government of the prison of *Ludgate* in the city of London, and of the Prisoners who are or shall be therein, made the sixth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the thirty-second year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled, "An Act for the relief of Debtors with respect to the imprisonment of their Persons, "and to oblige Debtors who shall continue in execution in Prison beyond a certain "time, and for Sums not exceeding what are mentioned in the Act, to make discovery "of, and deliver upon oath, their Estates for their Creditors benefit;" viz.

Election of Steward, and declaring his Duty.

1st.—It is hereby ordered, That on the first Tuesday in the months of January, April, July, and October, in every year, there shall be one discreet and sober person out of six prisoners, to be nominated by the keeper, elected to serve the office of steward for the ensuing quarter; who shall deliver an account in writing every Monday morning to the Court of Assistants of all sums of money he shall have received in the course of the preceding week or paid for the use of the house; which said account shall be audited by the Court, and entered by the secretary in the book kept for that purpose: And shall see the provisions equally divided among the prisoners, without partiality to any person; and also to see good and quiet order kept among the prisoners, and to see the hall cleared of all strangers at ten o'clock, and of all prisoners at eleven o'clock at night, and the door locked: And if the steward shall at any time be drunk, or do any other like indiscreet act, he shall forfeit and pay for the use of the house the sum of two shillings and sixpence, and on refusal, the Keeper and Court of Assistants shall have full power to dismiss him, and elect another in his stead for the remainder of the quarter.

Election of Out-door Steward, and declaring his Duty.

2d.—That on the election days aforesaid, there shall be appointed an out-door steward to collect all the donations and other charities given to this house, and to pay the same into the hands of the keeper, and to do such other business abroad for the benefit of the house, as may be reasonably required of him.

Election of Court of Assistants, and declaring their Duty.

3d.—That on the election days aforesaid, there shall be nominated and elected seven other sober and discreet persons from among the prisoners, to be called the Court of Assistants, who shall assist the steward from time to time in seeing the ordinances of the house kept and observed, and shall have power, with the keeper and steward, to hear and determine all offences against these Rules and Orders, and adjudge such punishments as by these Rules and Orders are prescribed; and when and so often as any vacancy shall happen among the members of the said Court between the general days of election aforesaid, the same shall be filled up by some other discreet and sober person, to be nominated and elected by the rest of the members of the said Court, or the major part of them, and if the numbers are equal, to be determined by the keeper's casting vote: And if any person elected either at the general election days aforesaid or in the intermediate time, shall refuse to execute the said office, he shall be fined one shilling for the use of the house, and upon default or refusal to pay the same for the space of one week, shall be rendered incapable of being elected to any office in the said prison, or of voting at any such election.

Election of Chapel Warden, and declaring his Duty.

4th.—That on the election days aforesaid, there shall be appointed a sober and discreet person, to be called Chapel Warden, who shall attend the Minister on the Sabbath-day, and take care the chapel ward be kept clean, and the books belonging thereto be in their proper places, and shall report to the Court the names of the absentees.

Election of Secretary, and declaring his Duty.

5th.—That on the election days aforesaid, there shall be a fit and proper person elected, to be called the Secretary, who shall enter in a book kept for that purpose, an account of all the monies received and paid for the use of the house, and shall do such other necessary business as may be reasonably required of him; but if he be found negligent or incapable of executing the duties of the said office, the Court shall have power to dismiss him and elect another in his room for the remainder of the quarter.

Election of Scavenger, and declaring his Duty.

6th.—That on the election days aforesaid, there shall be a proper person elected, to be called a Scavenger, who shall keep the house and yard, as near as may be, sweet and clean, and cause the dust and dirt to be swept away, and all other nauseous things to be carried forth, clear the house of dogs, and every night dress and light the lamps, and shall do such other things for the benefit of the house as may reasonably be required of him; and upon wilful neglect of his duty shall be dismissed, and another elected in his room for the remainder of the quarter.

Duty of the Constable of the day.

7th.—That one of the Court of Assistants shall in rotation act as Constable of the day, who shall assist the steward in keeping the peace, and shall, as far as in him lies, prevent improper conventions and conversations, and if necessary call the Court together to settle and redress such grievances as may be complained of.

Prisoners to attend Divine Service.

8th.—That all prisoners shall attend divine service on the Sabbath-day, unless prevented by sickness, or other reasonable cause to be allowed of by the Court of Assistants, or shall pay a fine of fourpence for the use of the house; and whoever is not in the chapel before the second lesson is read, shall be fined as aforesaid.

Against striking, cursing, swearing, or getting drunk.

9th.—That if any prisoner shall strike his or her fellow prisoner, or use opprobrious language, or prophanely curse or swear, or shall get drunk, and the same being satisfactorily proved before the Court of Assistants, he or she shall be fined one shilling for the use of the house, and on refusal to pay the same shall be rendered incapable of voting at any election or holding any office in the said prison.

Against molesting visitors.

10th.—That if any prisoner shall molest or ill-treat any person or persons visiting his or her fellow prisoner, he or she shall be fined one shilling for the use of the house: And if any person or persons visiting a prisoner shall molest or ill-treat any or either of the prisoners, the steward shall forthwith give notice thereof to the keeper, who shall oblige such person or persons to depart the said prison.

Prisoners supersedeable to claim.

11th.—That every prisoner whose action is become supersedeable, or otherwise entitled to be discharged, or to sue for sixpences, and who shall refuse or wilfully neglect to apply for the same, shall, after the expiration of seven days from the day on which they become supersedeable, or otherwise entitled as aforesaid, be deprived of their share of the daily allowance of bread, and of all other donations, benefits or allowances whatsoever, and shall not hold any office, or vote at any election in this house; and if they shall continue so to refuse or neglect, they shall, at the expiration of fourteen days more, to be computed from and after the said seven days, give place from time to time for the better accommodation of the junior prisoners for the time being.

Donation Money how to be divided.

12th.—That no prisoner shall be entitled to partake of the quarterly donation money until he or she shall have been confined fourteen clear days before the day the said donations shall become due and payable, and such donations shall be equally divided among the poor debtors freemen and freewomen in the said house entitled thereto, agreeable with the wills of the several donors; and if it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Court of Assistants, that any person shall have sufficient ability to maintain him or herself, such person or persons shall not be entitled to partake of the aforesaid donations.

Women Debtors Ward.

13th.—That a ward shall be set apart for the women debtors; and if it should happen that no women debtors shall be confined, then the said ward may be occupied by the men debtors, subject to removal upon the arrival of a woman debtor in the said prison, when the men debtors quitting the same shall go into the ward appropriated for the first reception of men debtors; nor shall any of the men debtors wives or children be permitted to sleep in the said prison, on any pretence whatever.

Against keeping taps.

14th.—That no prisoner shall be permitted to keep a tap in the said prison, or to have more than one quart of beer or ale, or more than one bottle of wine in his or her possession at any one time; nor shall any wine or beer be admitted in the said prison after the hour of eight in the evening.

Against disturbing fellow-prisoners.

15th.—That all the fire and candles in the said prison shall be put out every night at the hour of eleven; and if any prisoner shall wantonly disturb his or her fellow prisoner or prisoners, after they shall be gone to rest, he or she shall be fined one shilling for the use of the house, and on refusal to pay the same shall be rendered incapable of voting at any election, or holding any office in the said prison.

Against keeping dogs.

16th.—That no dogs shall be kept by any of the prisoners in the said prison.

Against disorderly characters.

17th.—That no disorderly women or common prostitutes shall be permitted to visit any prisoner in the house, under any pretence whatever.

Prisoners to clean their rooms.

18th.—That every prisoner shall wash and keep his room clean, and shall carry or cause to be carried his ashes and dirt to the common bin, before the hour of ten in the morning, or in default shall pay a fine not exceeding fourpence, at the discretion of the Court of Assistants, and which shall be paid to the scavenger, who shall, after the said hour of ten, wash and make clean the defaulter's room, and carry his ashes and dirt to the said bin.

Against stealing.

19th.—That if any prisoner shall be found guilty before the Court of Assistants of embezzling any of his or her fellow prisoners property, he or she so offending shall be deprived of all benefits and donations, and shall not be permitted to hold any office in future in the said house, until satisfaction shall be made to the party injured.

Rules and Orders to be painted on a Board.

20th.—That these several Rules and Orders shall be painted on a board in legible characters, and hung up in a conspicuous place in the said prison; and when and so often as any part thereof shall be obliterated or defaced, the same shall be forthwith repainted, to the end that no person or persons may plead ignorance thereof.

The above Rules and Orders have been considered and approved by me,
March 5, 1810, (Signed)
ELLENBOROUGH.
AR. MACDONALD.

John Ansley, Mayor.
J. Shaw.
George Scholey.

A true copy. *John Teague*, Keeper, April 4, 1814.

Appendix, No. 21.

A RETURN of the FEES payable by, and a List of the BENEFACTIONS annually made to, the Prisoners, Criminals or Debtors, committed to the charge of me, JOHN LAW, Keeper of the *Borough* Compter, Southwark; made in pursuance of an Order of a "Committee of the Honourable House of Commons, on the State of the Gaols of the City of London, &c. Mercurii, 30° die Martij, 1814. The Honourable George Eden in the Chair."

A Table of FEES to be taken by the Keeper of the *Borough* Compter on Criminal Matters.

	£.	s.	d.
For the admission of every Prisoner, for Felony, Trespass, Assault, or Misdemeanor - - - - - - - - -	0.	11.	4.
For every Night's lodging - - - - - - -	0.	0.	6.
To the Turnkey for the dismission of every such Prisoner - -	0.	1.	0.
For every Person brought by any Peace Officer for safe custody, until hearing can be had before a Magistrate - - -	0.	2.	0.

And for the better information of such Prisoners, the Court doth further order and direct, That a Table of the said Fees be fixed up in the most conspicuous part of the said prison, for the perusal and inspection of the said Prisoners, and others resorting to the said gaol.

(Copy.) By the Court,
MAN.

FEES from Debtors, by virtue of Process from the Court of the Town and Borough of *Southwark*.

	£.	s.	d.
For the Discharge of any Debtor, either in custody by Mesne Process or in execution - - - - - - - -	0.	10.	10.
For Copy of Causes - - - - - - - - -	0.	2.	6.

Debtors in custody by Process from the Court of Requests for the Town and Borough of Southwark, and Eastern Half of the Hundred of Brixton, in the County of Surrey, amounting to 300 and upwards, for the year 1813, as appears by entry.

No Fees allowed where the Prisoner remains in Prison during the whole term of his imprisonment.

5*s.* caption, 2*s.* court fee, if the debt is compounded.

DONATIONS to the Prisoners (as Debtors) in the *Borough* Compter, Southwark.

	£.	s.	d.
His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, annually - - -	1.	0.	0.
Parish of Saint Ethelburga Bishopsgate within, annually - -	0.	9.	0.

Mrs. Margaret Symcott gives, every eight weeks, sixty-five penny loaves by the Chamberlain of London, for ever.

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

March 31st, 1814.

Appendix, No. 22.

Numerical RETURN of Debtors in custody in the *Borough* Compter, by virtue of Process from the Court of Requests for the Borough of Southwark, and Eastern Half of the Hundred of Brixton, in the County of Surrey, for the Years 1811, 12 and 13.

Debtors in custody in the Year 1811	251
Debtors in custody in the Year 1812	318
Debtors in custody in the Year 1813	307
Total in custody during the Years 1811, 12 and 13	876

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

Appendix, No. 23.

Numerical RETURN of Debtors in custody in the *Borough* Compter, by virtue of Process from the Court of the Town and Borough of Southwark, for the Years 1811, 12 and 13.

Debtors in custody in the Year 1811	3
Debtors in custody in the Year 1812	5
Debtors in custody in the Year 1813	3
Total in custody during the Years 1811, 12 and 13	11

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

Appendix, No. 24.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of Night Charges in the *Borough* Compter, from September 1809 (at which time John Law was appointed Keeper of the above Prison) to 31st March 1814; specifying the number in each Year:—made in pursuance of an Order of a Committee of the Honourable House of Commons, "on the State of the Gaols of the City of London, &c. Jovis, 7° die Aprilis 1814."

From September 1809 to 31 December	1810	90
———	1811	38
———	1812	7
———	1813	5
From January 1st to March 31st	1814	3
		143

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

April 15th, 1814.

Appendix, No. 25.

RETURN of Number of Debtors and Criminals in the Prison of the *Borough* Compter, this 6th day of April, 1814.

Debtors - - - - - - - - - -	18
Criminals - - - - - - - - -	0
Total - -	18

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

April 6th, 1814.

Appendix, No. 26.

EXTRACTS from Deputation from the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London, to Sir WATKIN LEWES, Knight, of the office of Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, dated 25th November, 1784.

AND the said Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens have given and granted unto the said Sir Watkin Lewes, the gaol or prison of the said Borough, and the custody of the prisoners now being or which hereafter shall be in the said gaol, with liberty to take and receive all lawful fees which shall be due from any prisoners committed, or who shall be committed to the said gaol, on civil process * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

That he the said Sir Watkin Lewes shall not nor will, during his continuance in the said office or place, either take himself or permit or allow his gaoler to take have or receive any fees or gratuities whatsoever, for the admission detainer or discharge of any prisoners who are or shall be committed to the said gaol, upon a charge of felony, misdemeanor, or breach of the peace * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby agreed by and between the said parties to these presents, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to compel the said Sir Watkin Lewes to account for such fees, profits, or perquisites of the said gaol, as have been usually heretofore and shall continue to be taken and received by the keeper of the said gaol, and do not actually and bona fide come to the hands of the said Sir Watkin Lewes.

Appendix, No. 27.

ACCOUNT of Loaves of BREAD delivered to the *Borough* Compter, in October, November, and December, 1813.

(1 *s.* 6 *d.* Stamp.) Borough Compter to Elizabeth Horne;

1813.		£.	s.	d.
October 2.	193 Loaves, at 2 *d.* each	1	12	2
— 9.	325 d° - - d°	2	14	2
— 16.	307 d° - - d°	2	11	2
— 23.	320 d° - - d°	2	13	4
— 30.	310 d° - - d°	2	11	8
November 6.	323 d° - - d°	2	13	10
— 13.	302 d° - - d°	2	10	4
— 20.	299 d° - - d°	2	9	10
— 27.	277 d° - - d°	2	6	2
December 4.	246 d° - - d°	2	1	0
— 11.	222 d° - - d°	1	17	0
— 18.	212 d° - - d°	1	15	4
— 24.	202 d° - - d°	1	13	8
		£.29	9	8

This is to certify, that the above number of loaves has been delivered to this Compter.

Witness my hand, JOHN LAW, Keeper.

Examined per *Jn° A. Newman,*
Keeper of Newgate.

SIR,

Please to pay the above bill.

January 4th, 1814. *Watkin Lewes.*

To Richard Clark, Esq.
Chamberlain of the City of London.

Received, January 1814, The sum of twenty-nine pounds nine shillings and eight-pence.

Elizabeth Horne.

Appendix, No. 28.

EXPLANATION of Evidence of Mr. JOHN LAW, (p. 68.) Keeper of the *Borough* Compter.

John Law, Keeper of the Borough Compter, humbly begs to explain his answer to the following question, put by the Honourable Committee on his first examination, and which appears on the evidence.

Question.—Did you expect Sir Watkin Lewes would present that copy? (meaning the copy of a petition presented to Sir Watkin Lewes by John Law, relative to the state of the repairs of the Borough Compter, &c. &c.)

Answer.—No; I meant that I did not expect Sir Watkin Lewes to present a copy, but that he would present the petition itself, when corrected, as he said there was an informality in the copy. With respect to the repairs of the gaol, Sir Watkin Lewes would have appointed me four weeks earlier to the situation (which I shall have held five years next September,) but that the prison was out of condition and in a bad state; and that it was the earnest wish of Sir Watkin, it should be put in proper repair before I occupied my situation. The repairs did not take place according to Sir Watkin's wishes, frequently expressed; and the precarious state of custody (the gaol being left to the care only of a woman, the housekeeper of the late keeper) determined Sir Watkin to place me in the situation, under every circumstance.

JOHN LAW,
Keeper of the Borough Compter.

Appendix, No. 29.

EXPENSES incidental to the Discharge of a Debtor from the undermentioned Prisons, returned by the Writs for the Discharge of Persons imprisoned for Small Debts.

	On payment of Debt and Costs, or on Composition.	On superseding.	Under the Lords Acts.	Under Insolvent Acts, 54 Geo. III. c. 28. commonly called Lord Ellenborough's.
NEWGATE:				
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Sheriff's Discharge on one Action	0. 4. 6.	0. 4. 6.	—	—
For every other	0. 2. 6.	0. 2. 6.	—	—
Discharge, or gate fee	0. 8. 10.	0. 8. 10.	—	0 10. 0. but under the permanent Act, called Lord Redesdale's, the Society have not yet ascertained the Expenses.
Copy of Causes in general, about	- - -	0. 3. 6.		
Supersedeas contracted for by the Society	- - -	1. 17. 0.		
Obtaining payment of sixpence per day from Plaintiff, or discharge of the Defendant	- - -	- - -	1. 6. 0.	
Gate fee	- - -	- - -	- - -	0. 8. 10.
GILTSPUR-STREET COMPTER:				
Discharge Fees paid by the Society	1. 0. 8.	1. 0. 8.		
To the Secondary, if more than one Action	0. 3. 4.	0. 3. 4.	—	—
Superseding, about	- - -	1. 17. 6.	1. 1. 0.	—
C° of Causes	- - -	0. 3. 6.	0. 3. 6.	—
LUDGATE:				
Discharge Fees	0. 16. 8.	0. 16. 8.	—	—
Superseding	- - -	1. 17. 6.	—	—
C° of Causes	- - -	0. 3. 6.	—	—
Obtaining payment of sixpence per day from Plaintiff, or discharge of Defendant	- - -	- - -	1. 1. 0.	—
C° Causes	- - -	- - -	0. 3. 6.	—
POULTRY COMPTER:				
Discharge Fees, on payment of Debt and Costs, or on Composition	1. 0. 8.	1. 0. 8.	—	—
Superseding	- - -	1. 17. 6.	—	—
C° Causes	- - -	0. 3. 6.	—	—
Obtaining payment of sixpence per day from Plaintiff, or discharge of the Defendant	- - -	- - -	1. 1. 0.	—
C° of Causes	- - -	- - -	0. 3. 6.	—

RICH^{D} GRASWELL,
Secretary to the Society for the Discharge and Relief of Persons imprisoned for Small Debts, Craven-street, Strand.

The above Account, so far as relates to Sheriffs Fees and Prison Fees, appears to be correct; but with respect to suing for sixpences or superseding, as the Society contract for the same, they can do so for a smaller sum than can be done by an individual.

The expense of obtaining discharge under temporary Insolvent Acts, where the Prisoner was charged with one Action only, amounts to about twenty-five shillings; and I have been told, that under Lord Redesdale's Act, it has cost about five pounds, Sheriffs and Prison Fees being in latter cases included.

JN° A. NEWMAN,
Keeper of Newgate.

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REPORT

FROM THE

COMMITTEE

On the King's Bench, Fleet, and Marshalsea PRISONS;

&c.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
1 *May* 1815.

THE REPORT - - - - - - - - - - p. 3 to 30.

THE APPENDIX;——Viz.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE taken before the Committee - p. 33 to 240.
ACCOUNTS and PAPERS laid before the Committee - - p. 241, &c.

REPORT.

The COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into the State of The King's Bench, Fleet, and Marshalsea Prisons, and to report their Observations thereupon, together with any Improvement which may be practicable therein; and who were empowered to enquire into the State of the New Prison, building in the City of *London*, for the reception of Debtors, and into the arrangements made for the better management of the Prisons of *Newgate*, *Ludgate*, *Giltspur-street* and *The Borough* Compters, since the Report of the Committee of This House, on those Prisons, in the Year 1814:——Have, pursuant to the Order of the House, examined the Matter to them referred, and agreed upon the following REPORT.

YOUR Committee find the Marshalsea of the King's Bench to be under the jurisdiction of the Court of King's Bench, and that it is a national and not a county prison. Persons arrested for debt, or confined under the sentence or for contempt of the Court, are imprisoned therein. App. No. 2.

The Marshal is, at the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, appointed by the King, either by sign manual or by letters patent, in virtue of the Act of the 27th of George the Second. *William Jones*, Esq. the present Marshal, was nominated by sign manual on the 19th of March 1791, and he holds his office, according to the terms of the warrant, "for "so long time as he shall behave himself well, and shall be resident "within the walls or rules of the prison, and no longer." App. No. 2.

There is no salary attached to the office of Marshal of the King's Bench, his income is derived from fees on commitments and discharges, and from other sources, such as the rent of rooms in the prison, profits on the sale of porter, ale, and wine, the rent of the coffee-house, &c. &c.; but his principal emoluments arise from granting the rules, or the liberty of living without the walls of the prison, within a certain area. The average gross amount of revenue derived from these sources, may be estimated annually, for the last three years, at 5,000*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.* according to an account delivered in by the Marshal; the expenses and outgoings, including the payment of clerks, turnkeys, watchmen, taxes, &c. &c. are 1,730*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* leaving a net income to the Marshal of 3,270*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* To this must be added the fees taken on bails and judgments, which are calculated at 320*l.* per annum; making on the whole a sum of not less than 3,590*l.* Amongst these emoluments, that on beer sold in the prison amounts to 872*l.* and that on the rules to 2,823*l.* per annum. App. No. 10.

The outgoings consist principally in salaries, taxes, and law expenses, and the small sum of 75*l.* for repairs; though the Committee observe, that by the 17th clause of the 27th of George the Second, ch. 17. "the Marshal of the "Marshalsea of the King's Bench for the time being shall at his own cost "and charges, by and out of the fees and profits incident to the said office,

"well

"well and sufficiently repair, and keep in good repair, the said prison, and "all the buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging."*

The officers of the prison are all in the appointment of the Marshal, and consist as follow:

Min. p. 36. The Deputy Marshal is Mr. *Josiah Boydell*: This gentleman has nothing
to do with the management of the prison, and has no salary, but his emolu-
ments arise from fees taken under the rules and orders of the Court, dated
App. No. 11. 1759, and which amount from 350*l.* to 400*l.* per annum, and would, it is
stated, be considerably increased, if the fees were not voluntarily relinquished
in all cases of poverty and distress. The duties of this officer are to attend
the Chief Justice in court, and to accompany him to the Royal levees.

The situation of Clerk of the Papers was held by a nephew of Mr. Jones, who is dead. No new appointment has taken place, but the Marshal receives the profits of the office, which, arising from fees, may be estimated at from 600*l.* to 700*l.* per annum.

Min. p. 36. The office of Clerk of the Rules is held by the Marshal himself; who pays also three clerks fixed salaries.—There are in addition, three Turnkeys and four Watchmen, whose incomes are derived partly from salaries and partly from fees and emoluments arising out of the prison.

The Chaplain is the Rev. *William Evans*, who is appointed by the Marshal: he has no salary, but he receives a fee on the commitment of each prisoner, which is paid to the Clerks of the Judges at their chambers.

36. The prison contains within the walls about 200 rooms, 8 of which are
called state rooms, and are let for 2*s.* 6*d.* each per week, unfurnished;
the remaining 192 are (or ought to be) occupied by the prisoners, who are
compelled to pay weekly 1*s.* for a single room, also unfurnished: if two
persons live in the same room 6*d.* each, if three 4*d.* But the Marshal states,
that he never demands any rent from those who are unable to pay. On a
prisoner's arrival at the gate, he is called upon to pay his commitment fees,
37. which amount to 10*s.* 2*d.* Your Committee have been assured that,
whether the fees be paid or not, he receives on demand a chum ticket (as
it is called) which is a ticket of admission to some room in the prison. Your
Committee however, observing that the Marshal seems to consider he has
a right to refuse the ticket if the fees be not paid, think it essential to
remark, that a question as to the legality of such a refusal was put to
Commons Journals, 1 June 1791. Mr. Templer, the visitant in 1791, and his answer was, "That any prisoner,
immediately on going into prison, has a right to the possession of a room
or a part of one, if any shall be found capable of receiving him, although
at such time he should be unable to pay any fees." The principle upon
which this chummage takes place may be thus explained: Supposing the
192 rooms in the prison are occupied by one prisoner each, and there is an
arrival of fresh persons, which in term time often occurs to the number of
49, 50, 52. 20 or 30 of a night, and chum tickets are demanded from the chum-master;
if the prisoner so requiring a ticket is of decent appearance and has the air
of good circumstances, one is given him upon a room already occupied by
a person of his station in life; but if the applicant be poor, he receives
his ticket upon a room held by one who is enabled to pay him out, that is
to say, to give him so much per week, which generally amounts to 5*s.*
whereby he yields to the existing occupier the whole right to his room, and
pays for his lodgings with persons of his own class and situation: so that it is
not uncommon to find 6 or 8 persons of the poorer classes sleeping two in
a bed, or on the floor, in rooms of the dimensions of 16 feet by 13; some
127. also of these sleep at the tap on benches and tables, and as many as 48 have
slept

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* It does not appear to Your Committee, that there is any clear distinction made between the repairs that are to be done by the Marshal, and those that are to be executed by the Government.

King's Bench Prison.

slept there at one time. The choice then of the chummage is thus perfectly optional with the chum-master, who is one of the turnkeys, and has the sole management of the business as far as the ordinary rooms are concerned; but those of a better description, from their situation, are considered as being at the disposal of Mr. *Brooshooft*, the first clerk to the Marshal, who has in point of fact the direction and management of the whole prison. The prisoner who has sold his share of his room is considered as entitled to re-enter it whenever he chuses to break the bargain, it lasting only for one Min. p. 87. week; but it appears in evidence that this right has been denied or is evaded, 105, 106. and that persons who have interest with the officers of the prison may either keep a room free from chummage, or prevent those who are chummed upon them from returning to their rooms, if the payment of 5*s.* per week be 117, 119. regularly made: in this latter case, the person insisting on his right to return is shifted from his own room, and chummed on another.

No care seems to be taken to acquaint the prisoners, on their first entrance of the prison, that a chum ticket is to be obtained on application. Some 107. have been several days within the walls paying a heavy rent for their lodgings, before they learnt from their fellow prisoners that they had a legal right to a share of a room. The ordinary proceeding is for one of the turnkeys to take the prisoner on his arrival to the coffee-house, the master of which provides a room at the cost of about 3*s.* a night, or a lodging is engaged from some one of that numerous class of persons who, having been long in the prison, gain their livelihoods by letting out their own rooms, or their share of a room, to new comers. Eight and ten shillings a night 50. have been given for a bed; but the usual price is from fourteen shillings to one guinea per week. Mr. *Brooshooft* says, that some delay necessarily takes place in the delivery of chum tickets, and that it is sometimes difficult to provide situations on the emergency of the moment, fitted to the station of 51. life of the claimants, and who are therefore inclined either to look out for themselves, and find a lodging in the prison, or to wait, in the expectation of some one going out, when they can succeed to the vacant room.

The rule of chummage is, that the person who has been longest in prison keeps his room free from having another prisoner chummed on it, till all the rooms held by those of a junior date to himself have each a prisoner chummed on them. The system purports to be one of rotation; and if the prisoner be poor, and wishes to be bought out, he is chummed upon 78. one who can afford to pay him; if he wish to remain, he is placed in the room of a person who will keep him, and he has accordingly a chum ticket upon the youngest prisoner in one or other of these classes.

Your Committee sat several days within the prison, and have endeavoured to understand the manner of delivering of the chum tickets; but though there be a rule stated to exist, by which this delivery is regulated, yet it appears that so many exceptions are made to that rule, that the whole system seems to be one of favouritism and partiality, and liable to great abuse. It is in evidence that, contrary to the orders, and, what is more extraordinary, with- 79. out the knowledge of the Marshal of the King's Bench, the turnkeys, criers, 111. waiter at the coffee-house, &c. hold rooms within the prison, which they furnish and let to prisoners, the criers and the waiter at the coffee-house having no wages or salary, but deriving a portion of their income from this resource. It was also admitted by Mr. *Morris* the chum-master, and confirmed by 79, 121. Mr. *Brooshooft*, and by some of the parties themselves, that a person by the name of *Gore* was a prisoner within the walls of the prison; that as such he was chummed on a room; that he paid out his companion; that he furnished the room and let it; and that, though he be now out of the prison, living with his wife within the rules, being also an assistant tipstaff, he was permitted to keep possession of the room, and to let it to prisoners at the rate of of 20*s.* per week. It appears also, that Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Brooshooft* were both acquainted with all the circumstances of the case, and voluntarily winked at the abuse.

Your Committee have also to observe, that the whole management of this branch of the economy of the prison seems most defective. Though the Marshal has published an order, that extravagant demands shall not be made by one prisoner on another, and that no alterations shall be attempted in any of the rooms, and that a system of antient date for the successor to a room to buy the fixtures, and pay for the alterations of his predecessor, should be broken through, and no longer be permitted to exist, yet the practice is most prevalent, and several witnesses have declared that they have paid considerable sums of money for what were called fixtures. Though no evidence went directly to prove the fact, as having recently occurred, yet Your Committee feel themselves warranted in declaring it to be their opinion, that there appears to be an understanding in the prison on the part of some of the officers, to chum those persons only in particular rooms who are enabled to be at the expense of making these purchases. Great abuses prevail in the whole system, and the orders and regulations of the Marshal are nugatory. Of the 192 rooms in the prison, though there were 440 prisoners within the walls, 80 were occupied singly; many of the other rooms were occupied by 6 persons, or more, of the poorer classes. Mr. *Burnet*, a prisoner, and by profession a surgeon, and who gratuitously attends the sick, informed Your Committee, that such was the crowded state of some of the rooms, and the consequent offensive smell, that, if he had not been used to an hospital, he could not have borne it; and that a corpulent patient under his care was getting into a bad way, from the crowded state of his apartment.

Min. p. 101. 48. 103. 137.

Mr. *Brooshooft* says too, that there is no limit imposed by the rules of the prison to any number of prisoners as shall so think fit, crowding together in the same room, the effect of rapacity on one side and necessity on the other; and that if ten persons were to lie together, no one would interfere. In some of the rooms, when Your Committee visited them, there were 5 or 6 persons; not including women and children, of whom there were within the walls, on the 13th of March, 180.

52.

The prison was formerly divided into Master's Side and Poor Side; that distinction has long ceased, though there are a few of the lower rooms, at the back of the prison, exclusively occupied by the poorer classes. Those may be considered however on the poor side, who receive the 3*s.* 6*d.* per week under an Act of Parliament, and who swear they are not worth 10*l.* in the world, as well as those who are entitled to the charities and the proceeds of the poor's box, and who take an oath that they cannot command 5*l.*

53 Geo. III. ch. 113. s. 3. Min. p. 41.

Besides the 440 persons confined within the walls of the prison, there were 220, on the 13th of March, who enjoyed the benefit of the rules; these rules extend in circumference about two miles and a half. But it is ordered by a rule of the court of King's Bench, of the 35th Geo. III. that all taverns, alehouses, and places licensed for public entertainment, should be excluded out of and deemed no part of the said rules. With these exceptions, and with the permission of the Marshal, any prisoner for debt may live in any house within the precincts of the above-mentioned district. The Marshal, on an application for this permission, takes security from the applicants by way of indemnity for the debt with which they stand charged; and the purchase is made on the following terms:—If the prisoner takes the rules for a debt of 100*l.* or more, 8 guineas is demanded for the bond, stamp, and other fees, and 4 guineas for every succeeding 100*l.*; if the sum be large, and the security good, a fee is sometimes taken in

74. 75.

King's Bench Prison.

in a smaller proportion; if the debt be under 100 *l.* 6 or 5 guineas are demanded. But in many instances the rules are given without expense: and some persons are now within the rules, who have paid nothing for that permission: the Marshal indeed grants these rules as a mode of clearing the prison, and in 1813, a great number of persons were admitted to them by a public notice circulated in the prison, which gave that liberty upon the claimant finding proper security, and paying only for the stamp. The profits arising from the rules are very considerable; Mr. *Jones* states, Min. p. 75. that he once received 300 *l.* from one person for granting them; and that the annual average value of this source of his emoluments amounts to 2,600 *l.*

There are also day-rules, which any prisoner can obtain during term time, by permission of the Marshal, upon sending a petition to the clerk of the day-rules, which petition is presented to the court of King's Bench, and the liberty is so granted; the fee paid on this by each prisoner, is 4 *s.* 2 *d.* which is divided in the manner set forth in the table of fees. The safe return of the prisoners within the rules, is considered as sufficiently secured by their recognizances; and those within the walls, give a bond to the tipstaff, renewable every term, the expense of which is 3 guineas. When the sum for which a prisoner is detained is small, and under 600 *l.* the tipstaff can of his own authority, and at his own 76. risk, consent to his applying for a day-rule; when the debt amounts to a larger sum, a special application must be made to Mr. *Jones*, who requires security before he will consent to the rule; but in case of a prisoner not being able to find such security, he may avail himself of a day-rule, by giving the tipstaff one guinea, who furnishes a man to take care that the person does not escape, on whom the expense of maintaining this guard falls; the prisoner may be out of the prison from nine in the morning to nine at night. The profits to the Marshal from the day-rules, amount to 223 *l.* per annum.

Besides these, there is a manner by which a prisoner has been permitted 175 to go out of the prison, which is known by the name of a "*run on the key.*" It is a liberty granted by some of the officers of the prison to any of the prisoners, to go into the rules for the day. The Marshal, being examined upon this practice, stated, that he had discovered that such permission had during the last year been given, 180 that he censured his officers for acting so improperly, and that if he detected them in the repetition of the act, they should certainly be discharged from their situations. Your Committee have not only discovered that the practice, though diminished in its extent, still continues, but that money is taken for that permission; one of the prisoners stated to Your Committee that he paid, and Mr. *Morris* acknowledged that he received, a one pound note, which was 181. to have been divided among the turnkeys, who considered themselves, if the prisoner escaped, as liable for the debt with which he stood charged. Mr. *Brooshooft* however thinks differently from the Marshal upon this subject; he has thought proper to tell the Committee, that though the Marshal has forbidden it, he should have no difficulty, if a gentlemen came to him on the morrow, and intended to go out either to his attorney or to buy any thing of which he stood in need, in granting him that indulgence; "and that he should 179. "think it extremely odd if he had not a right to act for himself in many "cases." The nature of the situation of Mr. *Brooshooft*, beyond that of private clerk to Mr. *Jones*, Your Committee have not been enabled to learn; he appears to have the sole direction and management of the prisoners, and is known to the prisoners by the name of the Deputy Marshal, and described as such; but his conduct in this respect, to say the least of it, is in direct opposition to the orders of his superiors, and Your Committee think it their duty to mark their sense of the impropriety of such a procedure.

King's Bench Prison. The receipt of money on the part of the turnkeys opens a wide field for every species of abuse; and the mere circumstance, of their considering themselves as liable to the payment of the debt, neither lessens the impropriety of disobedience to the commands of a superior, nor changes the real nature of the transaction, which is neither more nor less than the taking of a bribe to commit a breach of their duty.

The present system of the rules is of considerable long standing; but Your Committee are of opinion that it ought to be subjected to some regulations. It would perhaps be too severe an aggravation of the law of arrest, to deprive prisoners of the liberty of the rules altogether; but, as the practice now stands, the fraudulent, no less than the honest and unfortunate debtor, can, upon the payment of a sum of money, place himself in a situation that can hardly be called imprisonment, by which he eludes the sentence of the law, and may dissipate that fortune which, in justice, is no longer his own. It appears to Your Committee, that the Marshal ought not to be permitted to exact such large sums from the persons who apply for the liberty of the rules. As a mode of relief to the crowded state of the prison, he occasionally grants that permission, upon the parties finding security for the debt and the payment of the law expenses; and there therefore seems to be no reason why the practice should ever be otherwise, except that of enabling the Marshal to derive a large income from those sources. The sum of 2,600*l.* per annum is surely much too large to be drawn from the pockets of debtors; as it is ever to be remembered, that whatever is paid by that unfortunate, though sometimes criminal class of men, is not paid by them, but by their creditors, to whom the property they are worth legally belongs.

Your Committee are also of opinion, that the practice of exacting from the applicant for the day-rule a term bond, which bond is renewable every
Min. p. 128. term, at the cost of 3*l.* besides a fee of 4*s.* 6*d.* daily, is most objectionable, and which, though warranted by ancient custom, ought to cease, for the same reasons which have been urged against the heavy payment demanded by the officers of the prison on the granting the liberty of the rules.

By the Act 53 Geo. III, all persons who are not supersedable, or entitled to be discharged under any Act for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors, and who are not charged in execution, and as such have a claim to receive an allowance under the Lords' Act, can, upon swearing they are not worth 10*l.* receive 3*s.* 6*d.* per week in weekly payments. The whole amount of the money paid by the different counties in England is 700*l.* per annum; and if there be any balance remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, it is to be paid to some of the public charities.

The Marshal of the King's Bench has no control over the disposition of
41. this fund, it is left to a magistrate; and Mr. Hope, a person in the Office of the Clerk of the Peace, attends weekly to pay the allowance.

Persons committed for misdemeanors have no claim to relief under this Act; and if poor, have no means of obtaining assistance, except from the
41. charity of the Marshal; who states, that last year three poor men were committed under the Excise laws; they were without money, and were in the King's Bench for some time; he allowed them 1*s.* 6*d.* per day out of his own pocket. Though these cases do not often occur, it surely cannot be right to leave any one in a prison without the means of subsistence, and to be kept from starving by the charity of individuals.

In addition to the allowance of 700*l.* per annum under Mr. Thornton's
55. Act, the former class of debtors become entitled to receive a share of all the charities and benefactions paid for the use of the common-side prisoners, on taking an oath that they cannot command the sum of five pounds, and

that

King's Bench Prison.

that they cannot subsist without the above charities. A list of these has been laid before the Committee, and is also hung up in the lobby of the prison, and their annual amount may be estimated at 40*l.* per annum. Very few persons, however, entitle themselves to a share of these charities: there are seldom more than two or three, who form a kind of corporation, consisting of a major, clerk and assistant, who regulate all its concerns. Those who claim these charities are besides compelled to hold alternately the begging-box at the grate; and many who are in great need relinquish this relief, rather than submit to that which is deemed a degradation, and which seems to Your Committee to be a condition that ought not to be enforced. The proceeds of this box are divided every night by the major. Mr. *Ledwell*, who holds that office at present, values its annual receipt at 15*l.*; it is however most probable that there is a concealment of the profits so derived, as the assistant, *Owen Owen*, acknowledged that, one day with another, he receives from sixpence to a shilling.

When Your Committee first visited the prison, there were two persons on the list, viz. the major and his assistant; since that period the assistant has been superseded, and the major, *Ledwell*, only remains. This man has been imprisoned in the King's Bench nearly seven years, originally for debt; on his discharge he was committed for a contempt, for not answering before the commissioners under the bankrupt laws; and though now he could without difficulty obtain his discharge, yet he remains in confinement, for the sake of the subsistence which he draws from the charities and allowances of the prison. Min. p. 132.

Your Committee called for the book in which an account of the monies received is purported to be kept; and having examined it, there appears to be no entry since the 6th of April 1813; and though the major affirmed that he kept an account of all the charities, yet he afterwards acknowledged that he could only just write his name, "and that he made sometimes a loose copy on a scrap of paper, and sometimes he forgot it." 184.

It appears, too, that of late years the entries have been most irregular, there being none whatever in the year 1812; the book is also much mutilated and defaced; it contains the rules and regulations made by the court of prisoners, for their own government, which in general are just and equitable.

There are no other allowances in the King's Bench; no coals, nor bedding, nor even blankets, except from the occasional charity of individuals. Mr. *Brooshooft* states, that he has general orders from the Marshal, never to withhold assistance from any person who is sick and in poverty, and that expenses so incurred are charged in his account, and invariably paid; yet he adds, that few demands are made for blankets, &c. unless it is known that the benevolence of private individuals has provided them, "for the applicants could not otherwise expect to be successful." It is thus clear, that though the distress arising from the want of these articles may be great, the relief is scantily, if at all, afforded. 56.

In the rules and orders for the King's Bench prison, made in the 33d of George the Second, and in 1760, in pursuance of "An Act for relief of Debtors," there is a charge of so much a night for bed and bedding, to be paid to the Marshal, for the first night 6*d.* and for the succeeding 1½*d.* That practice has long ceased. But, as it is in evidence that 10 shillings a night have been paid by poor prisoners for the use of a bed, it is the decided opinion of Your Committee, that some regulations of a similar nature to those which heretofore existed, providing for the supply of bed and bedding, should take place. 50.

There is no infirmary within the walls of the prison, and no medical attendance whatever. It appears, however, by the rules and regulations signed 57.

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Appx No. 3. by Lord Raymond in 1729, that the Marshal was directed to take particular care of all prisoners on the common side who shall happen to be sick, and that all proper necessaries shall be provided for them by the steward and assistant, who shall be reimbursed out of the county money; also, that two rooms under the dining-room be reserved for the use of such prisoners as shall be afflicted with any disease or any infirmity that may require such an accommodation. This order, though the situation of the rooms be changed, is confirmed by the regulations signed by Lord Mansfield in 1760. Though these rules were framed for the government of the prison in its antient state, yet the principle of affording medical relief, and establishing an infirmary, are acknowledged; and it is the opinion of Your Committee that these rules, being still in force, ought to be acted upon.

Min. p. 64. The Marshal informed Your Committee that the prison is uncommonly healthy; and that during the 24 years he has filled his present office, he has never known a contagious fever. He added, moreover, that at present only one person was ill in the prison. On inspection, however, the latter statement was found to be by no means correct; many prisoners were discovered to be afflicted by sickness, and, if it had not been for the charitable assistance of Mr. *Burnet*, a surgeon, and then a prisoner, would have been in absolute want of all medical relief.

137. Mr. *Burnet* has been a prisoner for four or five months. He informed Your Committee, that he gratuitously attends the sick, and that he has occasionally furnished money to purchase medicines for those who required them. On the 16th of March there were under his own attendance about 30 sick prisoners; and he said that he had been professionally employed since 6 o'clock in the morning. He adds also, that within his own knowledge the distresses are very great, for want of medical relief; and that it is his opinion, that the dirt and filth suffered to accumulate at the back of the prison are greatly prejudicial to the health of the prisoners. Mr. *Burnet* never heard of medicines, or soup, or slops, being given at the gate to sick prisoners; but upon being asked if he had ever known an application made
138. and refused, replies, "I am sure they give nothing. There is a poor Dutch-"man, unwell of a jaundice, and dying of a liver complaint; he is well known; "he is sitting on the cold stones; if I had any place to put him in, I would "do it at my own expense." Several Members of Your Committee observed this miserable Being, who was certainly a fit object for an hospital; and in the room where he lived, there were five men, two women, and two children.

Mr. *Audley*, one of the prisoners, when examined by Your Committee, affirms he had seen the same man leaning against the state-house, close to
95. the gate, apparently very ill. He complained he had no friends, nor no money, only a few pence in his pocket; and that on Sunday he had nothing to eat but a piece of dry bread. The same evidence informed Your Committee, that a prisoner of the name of *Rogerson* had been ill a long time of the rheumatic gout; that he is in indigent circumstances, lodging in a room with 5 or 6 other persons; that he had nothing but what was furnished by the charity of individuals: he had received an old rug from the officers of the prison, and lately some relief-money from the same quarter.

Upon these cases Your Committee make no comment; they feel it quite unnecessary to prove, by reasonings, that medical attendance and relief under the calamity of sickness and disease, are claims which the poor prisoner has to make from the laws of his country which incarcerate him. Surely there is no situation more deplorable than that of a man shut up in a crowded prison, suffering under diseases, perhaps caused by want, and the

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unwholesome air he is condemned to breathe, and unable from poverty and distress to provide himself with medical advice or the medicines essential to his cure.

Your Committee would feel they were not doing their duty, if they did not recommend in the strongest manner the establishment of an infirmary, and the constant attendance of a physician or surgeon, to be paid out of the county allowance, which if not sufficient for that purpose, ought to be increased.

Your Committee wish to bear the testimony of their praise to the humanity and charity shewn by Mr. *Burnet*, who appears in the evidence, though a prisoner, and poor, to give gratuitously his time and skill to the sick and needy, and, as far as his own means allow him, provides medicines for those whose distresses prevent them from so furnishing themselves.

Your Committee have called for a return of the number of deaths within the prison: they amount, in 10 years, to 96. Mr. *Audley* informed them, that a prisoner, by the name of *Samuel Roysen*, who was chummed in the same room with himself, was taken ill on the 2d of February, and languished, confined to his bed, to the 17th, when he died. Mr. *Audley* mentioned repeatedly the illness of this man, but no notice was taken; no one came to see him, but the surgeon Mr. *Burnet*, who gratuitously attended him. Minutes, pp. 93, 94, 95. The witness repeatedly pressed to be removed out of the room, but without avail. During the period of the illness, a third person was chummed on the room, though at that time but a small part of the prison had three persons in a room. After much remonstrance with *Morris*, the chum-master, the new chum, sleeping in the room with the sick man for two nights, was removed. The witness slept in the same apartment all the time, from the 2d to the 17th. No medical relief, or nourishment, or attention of any description, was afforded; " nor no more notice taken of the sick man than if he was a dog." 94. As soon as *Roysen* died, which was on the Friday evening, information was given at the gate; but it was not till Monday that the coroner viewed the body. The witness slept one night in the room with the dead body, and must have continued so to do till it was removed for interment, if a fellow-prisoner had not given him permission to shift his bed into the adjoining room. During the illness of *Roysen* the room became so offensive, that myrrh and frankincense were burnt, to remove the smell. 94.

58. Mr. *Brooshooft* being examined upon this subject, said, that persons whose timidity might make them desirous to be removed out of a room where a dead body laid, might be so enabled, upon application. He added too, that the body is always left in the room till it is removed for interment; and that though he cannot say that the person chummed in the room has continued to lie there during that period, yet he can say they were not chummed out by him. 61.

Your Committee find, in a Report of a Committee of this House that sat in 1791, cases of a similar nature. That Committee forbore to comment upon them, having received assurances from the then Secretary of State, the late Lord Melville, " that provision was made for the purpose of preventing such miseries in future." From 1791 to 1814 these miseries have continued; and Your Committee, in detailing these transactions, confidently hope, that those, whose duty it is to put a stop to a practice so disgraceful, and who have under their care the health and comfort of so many of the King's subjects, will lose no time in remedying an evil that so loudly calls for redress.

The discipline of the prison, as connected with its morals as well as the comfort and security of the prisoners confined, comes next under the consideration of the Committee. The first day they visited the King's Bench.

King's Bench Prison. Bench, the escape of Lord *Cochrane* was announced to one of their
Members. By what means Lord *Cochrane* escaped from the prison, has
not yet been ascertained; but he got out on the Sunday or Monday
morning, and on Thursday, when the Committee met at the King's Bench,
the Marshal and his officers were unacquainted with the event. It seems
then evident, that a great neglect must exist somewhere. That a prisoner
should escape at all, implies inattention or neglect of duty in the officers
who held him in charge; but that any one, of the rank and quality of Lord
Cochrane, should be out of the prison for three days and nights, or more,
and the Marshal of the King's Bench owe his information on the subject to
a Committee of the House of Commons sitting accidentally within the walls
of that prison, is so extraordinary, that, if it had not happened, the possibility
of such an occurrence would have been disbelieved by every one. The
Marshal and his officers were questioned upon the subject of escapes; they
Min. p. 124. declared them to be extremely rare; that no record was kept by them,
but all that was done was the payment of the debt by the Marshal. To
what extent the number of escapes has really amounted, or what is the
general standard of remissness on the part of the officers of the prison,
Your Committee have no means of judging; all that they remark is, that
two have taken place within a month, and that in both cases the event was
communicated to them before it was known to the Marshal. The 2d case
to which they allude, is that of a prisoner by the name of *Underwood*, who
182. is said to have volunteered on board the tender; a person was procured,
who swore a debt against him; upon this he was arrested and brought to
the King's Bench, from whence he escaped, supposed in the disguise of a
sailor. *Underwood's* attorney had got his discharge, but did not use it,
180. thinking he might as well lie in the prison as on board the tender. No
search was made in the prison after him, and no communication to the
Marshal of his escape, though he is liable, under an Act of Parliament, in
the penalty of 100*l.* for the safe delivery of the person to His Majesty's
officer, on the discharge of the debt. This case carries with it much suspicion.
The party was under age. Mr. *Brooshooft* did not think the escape
an event of sufficient importance to report it to the Marshal, as there was
179. no debt to be paid, the action being friendly and fraudulent, and relying
on the remissness or forbearance of the Government not suing for the
penalty of 100*l.*

By what means escapes are prevented or discovered, it is not easy to
determine; it is in evidence that no examination takes place of the prison,
or of the prisoners; nor is there any roll-call or muster, daily, weekly or
49. monthly. On the Monday of every week, the chum-master goes round
to receive the rents; but if he be paid by another prisoner, or in the court-yard,
or on the staircase, he does not think it necessary to enter each
room; and upon the inspection of the book, it appears in a great variety of
instances that the chamber rent has not been paid for many weeks together.
So that as far as the officers of the prison are concerned, a prisoner might
be absent a month, or for a year, or longer, before they found it out.

In respect of the morals of the prison, drunkenness is most common, and
46. there is a constant sale of spirituous liquors. Mr. *Jones* says, he has
information of 10 places where they are sold; and another witness states,
that on the staircase where he resides, there is a sort of public-house kept,
where spirits are not only sold to be carried away, but that people assemble
128. there of an evening to drink them; that he is disturbed by the riotous
intoxication in his vicinity, and that, from the strong smell of gin, if the
officers visited the room, they must discover the practice.

Of the extent to which gambling is carried, the Committee have not
learnt; for they observe, that though complaints are readily made on matters
where the rules or want of rules of the prison affect the comfort of the
prisoners;

prisoners; yet where their own indulgencies are concerned, they are not so communicative.

They do not complain of extravagance of living, or criminal dissipation, or those habits of self-indulgence by which creditors are defrauded, property dissipated, and morals tainted. There is however a practice, which, though it would be injudicious altogether to prevent, might still be put under regulation. The practice alluded to arises out of the racket-grounds. For a long period, a portion of the court has been divided into four racket-grounds, which are held by six masters; the successor to each ground pays something to the first occupant, on his quitting the prison, partly for the purchase of the rackets, and partly for the goodwill. One of the present racket-masters paid as large a sum as 6 guineas. A small fee is paid by the players: and though it be said that any one may play there who chuses, whether he pays or not, yet it is also said that this circumstance hardly ever happens, there being a point of honour felt by the prisoners upon this subject. The objection seems to be, the permission given to strangers to play there; it is an open place, where any one may play, and as such it may become the resort of the idle and the dissolute. As an exercise and amusement to the prisoners it is unobjectionable; as a place of resort, from the opportunity it may furnish to gambling, it is fitting that some regulation should be adopted to limit the practice as at present existing. Min. p. 114. 112.

Your Committee observe, that though the Rev. Mr. *Evans* be Chaplain to the prison, yet, from his age and infirmities, he hardly ever attends; and the weekly service is not always performed by the same individual. Any other duty, besides reading the service and preaching once every Sunday, does not seem to be considered as within the province of the Chaplain or his deputy. The attendance in chapel is small, and neither the Marshal nor the officers of the prison think it their duty to be present. Under these circumstances, where no example is set by those who are in authority, where there is no regular clergyman, and where the duty is left to be performed by one who is there, because he has no other engagement, and who is hired for the performance at a public office, Your Committee are not surprised at the neglect with which the sabbath day is treated within the walls of the King's Bench. No person officially connected with the prison seems to have inquired in what manner the offices of our religion are performed. Your Committee recommend that the Chaplain appointed should be an efficient person, and that the system by which the situation has become a sinecure, should no longer be permitted to exist.

Your Committee see, by a rule of Court in 1781, that the Marshal is ordered not to suffer the wives and children of any of the prisoners to lodge in the prison, under any pretence whatsoever. On the 13th of March 1815, there were 180 women and children, not prisoners, residing within the walls of the King's Bench. Your Committee, while they deeply feel for the condition of those whom our laws sentence to imprisonment for debt, cannot but remark, that in a prison often too crowded by the number of prisoners who are lodged therein, the addition of 180 persons must augment every inconvenience to a most alarming degree. Independent of the bad consequences thus arising from the over-crowding of the prison, the result of this indiscriminate admission of women and children of all ages and descriptions, there are moral evils connected with the subject that strongly weigh on the minds of Your Committee. It is in evidence, in the Report of a former Committee of the House, that a system of early prostitution was the effect of the introduction of female children within the walls, thus exposing them to the contaminating manners of a prison. The inquiries of Your Committee have satisfied them, that, as it is at present administered, Appendix, Nos. 7 & 8.

the

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Min. p. 52. the King's Bench exhibits scenes of vice and debauchery, the contemplation of which must aggravate these evils. Women of all descriptions are here freely and without inquiry admitted; and men, women, and children, sleep indiscriminately in the same room. Though the separation of a man from his family may fall hard upon some individuals, yet in balancing the good against the evil, the advantages against the disadvantages, Your Committee are decidedly of opinion that the positive rule of Court ought not to have been disobeyed, but that on the contrary it ought to be acted upon. For certain hours each day, the longest time that can be given, the friends or family of a debtor ought freely to be admitted to him; but no stranger ought to be permitted on any account to sleep within the walls, except on the special leave of the Marshal, the permission, and the reason for giving it, being entered in a book and shewn to the Visitors. The prison is ill lighted, and, even when the Committee saw it, extremely dirty; though they were informed, that for some months it had not been so clean. 53. It smells not only from the sewers, but from the piles of dirt heaped up behind the prison, which are offensive and unwholsome. 138. The scavengers are paid by the Marshal, but they make a profit by the dirt, and of course only take it away when the quantity repays the labour of removal. They sell also the urine, which is collected in tubs, the smell of which is generally complained of. Your Committee recommend the prison to be better lighted, at least one lamp to be in each staircase; that the scavengers should be made to do their duty, and remove all the dirt out of the prison weekly; 65. and that the urine should be carried off by an underground drain. At present no attention is paid to cleanliness in the prison; each individual is as cleanly or as dirty as to him seems meet, and the apartments are kept according to the habits of the occupier; 53. there is no attention paid by the officers of the prison to these particulars.

Among the fees levied in the prison, is a tax of one shilling a week taken from the butchers selling meat within the prison, by the scavengers; of 172. this the Marshal knew nothing. It is an extortion; the establishment of the butchers in the prison is for the general benefit of the prisoners, and the individuals should not be taxed at the discretion of the servants of the Marshal.

The prison is managed and governed by certain rules laid down by the Judges of the King's Bench, &c. which are called Rules of Court; the earliest bears date in the 3d year of George the Second, 1729; they are contained in the Appendix to this Report, and, as far as they are applicable to the then state of the prison, seem to have been well considered. There are also other Rules and Orders, of the year 1760, made in pursuance of the Act of 32 George 2. ch. 28, which are printed and hung up, agreeable to the directions of that Act, in various parts of the prison. Besides these, there are other Rules, bearing date the 12th, 19th, and 21st of His present Majesty, which, together with the preceding, may be taken as the code of laws by which the prison is, or ought to be governed. The Marshal is a magistrate, but acts only as such within the district of his own prison. He has the power of committing riotous and disorderly prisoners to Horsemonger-lane, which however is but seldom exercised. The places of confinement within the walls of the prison, are called the Strong-rooms: there are two of them, and are both of the same size, one floored with stone, the other with wood; but both without fireplaces, and without glass to the windows, which open into a small court about 6 feet wide. In these miserable places persons have been shut up for months. Those who have beds, are permitted to bring them, but to those who have none, straw is furnished. It is in this place that Lord *Cochrane* has been confined for above three weeks; the windows were however sashed and glazed on the third day after he came into it, it, and the room carpeted; yet the cold and damp and offensive smells so affected his health, as to render his removal necessary.

Your Committee observe in the examinations of Mr. *Brooshooft*, and *Morris* the chum-master, that it is no uncommon circumstance for persons to be confined in this room for weeks and months: one individual was so shut up for 42 weeks; and though the witnesses seemed to speak most unwillingly upon this transaction, yet enough has been extracted from them to satisfy Your Committee that the privations and sufferings endured by that person were most considerable. Mr. *Jones* informed Your Committee, that no one was ever confined there, except for a few days. They cannot suppose he wilfully concealed from them the fact above mentioned; and they must therefore consider this circumstance as furnishing another instance of his entire ignorance of all that is transacted within the walls of the prison.

Your Committee are of opinion that these strong rooms are not fit places for the confinement of debtors, or indeed of any other class of prisoners, for any length of time. They strongly recommend the selection of some other apartment in the prison, to be used for the purpose of temporary confinement, against which the same objections cannot be urged.

Your Committee would suggest, that whenever the necessity for punishing any prisoner in this or any other way should occur, it would be advisable that the Marshal should immediately report the reasons for such to the Visitors; and that the period of confinement should not be extended beyond a week, without their special authority.

The prison is visited once or twice a year by the Master of the Crown Office, and some others connected with that department. Your Committee called before them Mr. *Barlow*, who had visited the prison many years in company with Mr. Templer, the late master.

No record is made of such visitation, and no minute entered in any book kept for that purpose. If any complaints are brought before the Visitors, a report is made to the puisne judge of the King's Bench. The duty of these Visitors is only to see that the rules and regulations are observed; and in respect of complaints, Mr. *Barlow* does not remember that any have been made since the time of Lord Mansfield. Min. p. 141.

Your Committee examined also Mr. *Lushington*, who, as Master of the Crown Office, visited the prison for the first time last year, he having been recently appointed. He made a report (but of which he had no copy) and delivered it to Mr. Justice Dampier. The principal objects of that report were to complain of a contravention of the order of 1729, which forbids persons committed for any criminal charge, having any receipt of the charities, or of being concerned in the distribution, as well as to recommend a book being kept of the charities, and the amount. Nothing has yet been done upon those subjects; the same man, *Ledwell*, has the receipt and the distribution of these charities, and no account is kept of them. Mr. *Lushington* also recommended that the rules and orders of 1729 should be hung up in the prison. 172.

Your Committee are of opinion, that a mode of visitation going much farther than that which has hitherto been practised, should be considered as the duty of the Visitors.

They recommend, that they should visit occasionally without previous notice, as well as at stated times; that a book should be kept in the prison for the purpose of their writing the observations as to the condition in which it then was; the number of the prisoners; the cleanliness or dirt of the prison; the observance or breach of the rules and orders; the state of

King's Bench Prison. of the discipline; and lastly, that these visitations should at least take place once a quarter, and the report of the same be made in writing to the Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

Your Committee having inspected the prison, and sat several days within its walls, and having heard evidence from all those who were desirous of being called before them, cannot conclude this part of their Report, without offering some further observations upon those arrangements within the prison, and the mode by which it is governed and administered, which appear to them to call for the interference of the Legislature and the Government.

The King's Bench prison cannot conveniently hold more than 400 persons: Mr. *Jones* indeed says it is capable of containing 500; but, considering the size of the rooms, and the necessity of having some single apartments for the accommodation of persons under sentence of the courts of justice, Your Committee conceive that two prisoners in each room are as many as ought to be so placed: Some further accommodation is therefore wanting, as, during the last year, nearly 600 persons have at one time been confined within the walls of the prison. Min. p. 171.

Your Committee having observed, that it is not unfrequent for persons to prefer remaining in the King's Bench after they have become entitled to their discharge, are of opinion, that the Marshal should take such measures, as soon as he could conveniently so do, for removing those individuals, as their stay must increase the many inconveniencies which arise from the want of room within the prison.

They are also of opinion, that a separation ought to be made between the male and female debtors. That separation takes place in all the well regulated gaols in the kingdom, and Your Committee believe that the corruption of manners prevailing in the King's Bench is much augmented by the system which now exists in that prison.

The mode by which the Marshal is remunerated, appears to be most objectionable. The sum itself is great; amounting, on an average of the three last years, to a net income of 3,590 *l.* per ann. A minute detail of the profits and disbursements is contained in the Appendix to this Report. App. No. 10. It is the decided opinion of Your Committee, that the mode of remuneration arising out of fees paid by the prisoner, and by emoluments made at the expense of those who are confided to his charge, is the most objectionable means by which a salary is given to the keeper of a prison. His interests are thus set invariably against his duty; and his profits are made at the expense of those whom the law supposes to be pennyless, and whose property belongs not to themselves, but to their creditors. The Marshal of the King's Bench and his officers are public servants, and as such they ought to be paid at the public expense. The allowing a gaoler to make a profit from coffee-houses and taverns, and on the sale of beer and wine, within the prison, is also most objectionable. He thus becomes interested in the promotion of drinking; and his emoluments increase in the degree that sobriety and good conduct cease to exist among those whom the law places under his care. An Act of Parliament declares, that no keeper of a prison shall be a publican; 24 Geo. III. ch. 54. s. 22. why then is there to be an exception made in favour of the Marshal of the King's Bench? Your Committee observe, App. No. 10. that during the last year, 540 butts of porter, and 65 barrels of ale, were consumed within the prison; the profit on which gave the Marshal a net emolument of 872 *l.*

Your Committee are however aware that the Marshal holds his office and these emoluments for life, as long as he shall behave well; they therefore

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fore recommend some arrangement should take place, by which a just compensation should be made to him; that the fees exacted from the prisoners should be put under some regulation, or abolished altogether; and that the mode by which the gaol is supplied with malt liquor should no longer continue. The Marshal should have a control over every thing, a personal profit on nothing.

The Marshal, Mr. *Jones*, from all that appeared to Your Committee, is not disposed to press upon the poverty of the class of persons whom he has under his charge; the Evidence before them however warrants Your Committee in stating it to be their opinion, that he is little acquainted with what occurs in his prison; he avows, himself, that he seldom or ever enters within its walls; and the numerous contradictions given to his evidence by others, who are in the constant habit of seeing and hearing what is really going on, would have left no doubt of that being the case, even if he had not acknowledged it. A keeper of a prison, receiving from it a net annual income of 3,590 *l.* and not daily inspecting and visiting the prison, and not being personally acquainted with all that is transacted therein, seems to Your Committee to prove the existence of a state of things that ought not to be suffered to continue.

Mr. *Brooshooft*, though only the private clerk of the Marshal, is in fact the keeper of the prison; he directs and manages every thing; though he has no legal appointment, and consequently vested with no legal authority.

Mr. *Morris*, the chum-master, seems to be a most improper person to have the management of any part of the prison. It is proved before Your Committee, that he took money (which was divided among the turnkeys, all of whom are therefore equally criminal) for the purpose of obtaining from Mr. *Brooshooft* permission to do that, which all parties knew the Marshal had forbidden to be done. His whole evidence is shuffling and prevaricating; and Your Committee would have felt themselves justified in reporting him to the House, if they had not attributed his conduct as much to arise from his ignorance as from wilful and criminal prevarication. There is enough in the evidence to justify the opinion, that to ensure the due execution of the duties of the officers of the prison, the attendance of the Marshal should be permanent, steady, and uniform; and that the management of the prison should not continue any longer in the present state.

It appears therefore on the whole to Your Committee most advisable, that in case the Judges of the King's Bench should not have time to enter into a minute investigation upon the subject, that a commission should issue from the Crown, to form rules and regulations for the better government of the prison of the King's Bench; that the plan should be submitted to Parliament, and that some legislative enactment should take place upon the subject.

Fleet Prison.

The FLEET is a prison for debtors, and for persons charged with contempt of the Courts of Chancery, Exchequer, and Common Pleas.

The office of Warden is held at the pleasure of the Crown, and was granted by sign manual, in the 32d year of George the Second, to *John Eyles*, Esq. who at present holds that situation.

Mr. *Nixon*, the Deputy Warden, was nominated by Mr. *Eyles*, by an appointment bearing date the 3d of June 1790, and he has continued ever since to hold that office. Since 1804, Mr. *Eyles*, who is very infirm, has not entered within the walls of the Fleet, and has made over to the Deputy Warden all the emolument derived therefrom, reserving to himself an annuity of 500 *l.* per annum.

Minutes, p. 141. 143.

Fleet Prison. Mr. *Nixon* resides constantly within the prison, with, however, occasional short absences during the summer months.

No salary is attached to the office of Warden, Deputy Warden, and Clerk of the Papers. But Mr. *Nixon* is remunerated by fees and emoluments Those payable to the Warden have averaged, in the gross amount for the last three years, 2,687*l.* 4*s.*; and those to the Clerk of the Papers, for the same period, 810*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*; making in the whole 3,497*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*; out of which there are deductions to the value of 1,125*l.* per annum, consisting of servants' wages, taxes, payment of chaplain, &c. and on an average of losses by escapes and law charges, taken at 300*l.* per annum, the annual net income is thus 2,372*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* from which deducting the annuity of 500*l.* paid to the Warden, the clear revenue of 1,872*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.* is left to his Deputy. To this must be added the emolument derived from the tap, which Mr. *Nixon* calculates to amount to 200*l.* per annum; but as he has been a loser, from the failure of his agent, for the last two years, he has not included it in his return. App. No. 20. p. 259.

Mr. *Wm. Woodroff* is private clerk to the Deputy Warden; he enjoys a salary of 100*l.* per annum, and beside, a fee of half-a-guinuea on each grant of a rule, as Clerk of the Enquiries.

There are three Turnkeys, who have each half-a-guinea a week, and a room rent free within the prison; one Crier, who unites in his own person the offices of watchman and scavenger, who has half-a-guinea a week, and as a prisoner has also a room. Min. p. 142.

The Chaplain is at present Mr. *Manley Wood*; but Mr. *Jones*, the curate of St. Bride, Fleet-street, will succeed Mr. *Wood* after the 28th instant. He is nominated by the Deputy Warden, and receives from him a salary of 30*l.* per annum, and has no other emoluments. Divine service is performed on Sundays, Christmas day, and good Friday. 156.

There is also a Clerk, who has a salary of 10*l.* per annum; he is an old man, and has been a prisoner in the Fleet for 30 years.

The prison contains within its walls 109 rooms, 89 of which at present receive chums; of the remainder, 15 constitute what is called Bartholomew Fair, and are given away by the Deputy Warden to those debtors who are poor and have large families; 3 have no fireplaces, and are consequently considered as exempt from chummage; and the 2 remaining rooms are generally subject to chummage, yet at present being occupied by prisoners who are in a most distressed condition, one of them being blind and a lunatic, the Warden out of charity allows them the privilege of separate apartments. 156.

The principle of chummage is as follows: On the arrival of a prisoner at the Fleet, if he pays his fees on entrance, which amount, for the master's side, to 1*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* and for those on the common side, who are not entitled to partake of the proceeds from the poor-box, to 15*s.* 4*d.* a ticket is immediately, or at furthest on the following day, given to him; and, supposing all the rooms in the prison contain one prisoner each, he is chummed on the room next in rotation to that which had last a second person chummed on it. The chummage takes place immediately, beginning with No. 1. on the lower gallery, and having gone regularly through, the chum-master proceeds to give tickets on the coffee or second gallery, and so on to the top gallery, or highest part of the building. If, as he is proceeding to fill the rooms, a vacancy occurs on any of the floors that have been passed through, it remains so till the chum-master comes round again, and then the vacancies are immediately taken up through the house. App. No. 20. p. 257. Minutes, p. 156, 157.

The

Fleet Prison.

The first occupier of a room is called the owner, the new comer is the chum; but there is a perfect equality of right between them; no lodger can be taken, neither can the room be let, without common consent. The prisoners are allowed to change their rooms; on one becoming vacant, notice is given through the house, and any prisoner then possessing a room as owner, is at liberty once to make a claim; and if there be more claims than one, the senior claimant takes the priority, his chum remaining Min. p. 157. in the room which the owner so shifted quits, and the senior chum in the prison is appointed as owner. If there be a double chummage, that is to say, three persons in each room, the senior double chum succeeds as single chum to the vacant single chummage.

The rent of each room is 1*s.* 3*d.* per week, the payment of which is demanded quarterly; if it be not paid, four or five weeks are generally given in the nature of an indulgence; and if the rent be not then discharged, the occupiers are turned out, and the room is cried through the prison, and is considered as vacant. This circumstance is stated seldom to occur, the mere threat generally enforcing the payment of the money due.

It is in the power of either the owner or the chum to pay each other out, at the rate of 4*s.* per week, which is settled by the Deputy Warden, by whose rules no greater sum can be demanded than 8*s.* 3*d.* for an entire room 147. unfurnished per week, and 15*s.* 3*d.* for one furnished. These rules are sometimes evaded; but when the circumstance is known to the Warden, the 158. room is taken away from the person so offending. If a prisoner be unable to pay his fees, he receives no chum ticket, but must seek a lodging in the prison at his own expense. If however he becomes a lodger on the master's 157. side, he is considered as liable for the payment of these fees, before he can obtain his discharge.

If he be poor, and chuses to go on the common side, his fees only amount to 15*s.* 4*d.* and he may become entitled, if he swear he is not worth 5*l.* 146. to the charities and profit of the poor's-box.

The common side is divided into what are called four cabins, each containing 7 or 8 prisoners. The beds, when the prison is not very crowded, which occurs but seldom, are placed in small recesses, divided from each other, leaving sufficient space in the room for the prisoners to work or to sit round the fire. These persons pay no rent. The common side prisoners, who 146. are admitted to the begging-box and charities, pay no fees. On the 25th of March, there were 20 prisoners on the common side, and out of which number 4 were on the begging grate.

In addition to the 209 persons confined within the walls of the Fleet, App. No. 20. p. 257. there were on the 18th of March 52 within the rules; the average number of these last being between 60 and 70. The extent of the rules is small, being not above three quarters of a mile in circumference. Any prisoner for debt is admitted to them, upon giving security to the Warden against an Min. p. 153. escape, and paying a commission of 5 per cent upon the amount of his charge; and in case the debt is large, a less sum is taken. The Warden is secured by a warrant of attorney, with a defeasance setting forth the purposes of the warrant, the stamp on which costs 20*s.* There is no expense attending the preparing the instrument, as it is in a printed form, and is filled up by the Warden's clerk; the whole expense to the party is the 20 shilling stamp, and the enquiry fee of half a guinea to the clerk, and the 5 per cent. on the debt, or less, which the Warden may think fit to demand. The average annual emolument derived from the rules to the Deputy App. No. 20. p. 257. Warden, is 985*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*

Fleet Prison. There are also day-rules every day, during term, that the Courts sit, which are granted to the prisoners on application to the Warden, and on giving him sufficient security. The legal expenses are nearly the same as those above-mentioned; but in general only 15*s.* are taken above the cost Min. p. 154. of the stamp, and the enquiring fee. The ordinary expense to a prisoner, if the debt be under 500*l.* is 2*l.* 7*s.* and the greatest seldom more than 5 guineas. These rules are renewable every term. There is besides a fee of 4*s.* 6*d.* paid, which is divided as follows: Warden, 1*s.*; Clerk of Papers, 1*s.* 10*d.*; Secondaries of the Court of Common Pleas, 1*s.* 8*d.*; making in all 4*s.* 6*d.* The profits to the Warden, on the day-rules, amount on an average of 3 years to 145*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* The Warden however is accustomed, when a person is in prison for a small sum, and is a person of respectability, App. 20. to let him go out on a day-rule, without any other expense than the fee p. 259. of 4*s.* 6*d.*

Public-houses and taverns are not, as in the King's Bench, excluded from Min. p. 153. the rules. The Belle Sauvage public-house, and the London Coffee-house, are both within the rules of the Fleet; and it is in evidence that the sub- 154. stance of the prisoners is much wasted by expensive living in those places. Your Committee suggest the propriety of the taverns, &c. being excluded from the rules, and that whatever arrangement may be thought fit for the King's Bench, may be extended to the Fleet.

By the Act of 53 Geo. III, 500*l.* is annually paid by the different counties of England to the Fleet, and is distributed at the rate of 3*s.* 6*d.* per week to each person who swears he is not worth 10*l.*

There are, besides, various charities, which annually amount to 53*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* not including the receipt from the poor's box, which is taken at 130*l.* The Warden however says that he has been told the box has yielded as much 147. as 300*l.* in one year. The proceeds of the box and the charities are divided among those who swear they cannot command 5*l.* The ordinary number of these persons is 7 or 8; on the 25th of March it amounted to 4. There is here, as in the King's Bench, an obligation of standing at the begging grate, imposed on those who claim to share in the profits of the box. No account is kept of the money thus received, but the individual who stands at the grate, appropriates to his own use the contributions he that day receives.

Your Committee entertain the same opinion as expressed in the former part of their Report; and they have been informed that here, as elsewhere, the shame attending the exhibition deters many, though pressed by want, from complying with the terms by which relief is to be obtained. The profits then of these charities are enjoyed but by a few, and those probably not the most deserving.

There are no allowances given to the prisoners within the Fleet, neither coals, nor bedding nor blankets, excepting only what may be furnished by 151. the occasional charity of individuals. The Deputy Warden has informed Your Committee, that beds were formerly provided by the Warden at a given price, but that during the 26 years he has known the prison, no such practice has existed; nor indeed during the time of the Warden Mr. *Eyles*, who has held that situation about 61 years.

Your Committee think some regulation upon this subject to be most desirable, as affecting the comfort of the prisoners and the cleanliness of the prison.

There is in the Fleet no regular physician or surgeon; but two rooms, under the orders and regulations of the prison, were set apart as an infirmary for the use of the prisoners on the common side. These rules were made when the prison was in its earliest state. There is but one room given up for that purpose now; it is not however often used. On the 18th of March there were only two persons in the infirmary, one of them lame from gout and rheumatism, and the other ill in bed attended by a female of his family. Min. p. 151. No medicines are furnished and no medical attendance whatever, but what is voluntarily paid for, or found by the Deputy Warden. Your Committee examined a medical person, then a prisoner, who gratuitously attended the sick. On that day three persons were under his care. No assistance or allow- 163. ance of any kind was given to them. The witness had at first some medicines with him, which he distributed gratuitously; but having a wife and 8 children, he could not long afford so to do. Upon this subject Your Committee will refrain from again commenting; but they feel it their duty to remark, that Mr. *Nixon* states that he relieves at his own expense some of these distresses of want and sickness, and that the prisoners themselves are always ready to assist one another: it certainly however is most unfitting that persons confined in gaol, afflicted by sickness, should have no other relief than that which the casual and uncertain charities of individuals may provide.

The Fleet Prison may be considered as healthy; the number of deaths during the last three years have amounted to 13. On the decease of a 151. prisoner, the body is here removed into another room, till the verdict of the Coroner is given, when it is interred by the family or friends of the deceased, and at the expense of the Deputy Warden.

The discipline and morals of the Fleet come next under the examination of Your Committee.

Though the house of the Warden looks into the court, and the turnkeys 155. sleep in the prison itself, yet scenes of riot, drunkenness and disorder, are 164. most prevalent; (in one of them, lately, a man is stated to have had his 165. skull fractured.) The Deputy Warden has the power of confining persons guilty of riots or disorderly behaviour in the strong-room; but from the frequency of these disturbances, the punishment does not seem to be often inflicted, or if it be so, to produce any effect. Your Committee observe, that instances have occurred in which individuals have been ill treated by their fellow prisoners; it is the duty of the Deputy Warden to punish these acts of oppression, and to protect the prisoners from the extortion of each other.

The Fleet is visited by an officer from the Court of Common Pleas. His duty is to see that the rules and regulations are hung up, that they are acces- 152. sible to the prisoners, and obeyed. He reports to the Judges, every term, the state and condition of the prison; which regulation took place at the request of the Deputy Warden.

Mr. *Nixon* complains heavily of the state of morals within the prison, which are very bad, arising partly from the free admission of all women who are sober, at all hours when the gates are open, and partly from their constant residence within the walls; there being on the 18th of March 50 women and 77 children. There is no distinct place for women debtors, who live in the same galleries as the men. The Deputy Warden affirms that the disturbances are principally owing to women of bad character, being intoxicated and rioting in the galleries; and that he believes the Fleet to be the largest brothel in the Metropolis. Such is the depravity 149. of morals which exist in the prison, the result of the free admission of women to reside within the walls, that Mr. *Williams*, a prisoner, who 164. acts as apothecary, informed Your Committee that he was called on as a professional man to a case of miscarriage, and he found the woman in bed with her husband, there being also another man and his wife, and a single

Fleet Prison. single man, all sleeping in the same room. This practice is most common; and Your Committee refrain from commenting farther upon it, having already given their opinion upon the subject in the former part of their Report.

Your Committee find that the Chapel is very thinly attended; and complaints were made to them of disorderly conduct on the part of the congregation. Min. p. 150. They are not however surprised at either of these circumstances, for neither the Deputy Warden nor any of the officers ever attend; 155. it is also in evidence, that the coffee-houses are open during Divine Service, 165. a practice which they cannot too strongly condemn.

The system of letting the racket-grounds within the prison, exists here as in the King's Bench; but, from the situation of the Fleet, they are more frequented by strangers. Mr. *Nixon* says that the profit to the holder of each racket-ground may amount to one guinea per week. 148. Your Committee are of opinion that this practice requires the same regulation as that which they have pointed out, when reporting on a similar usage existing in the King's Bench prison.

No complaints have been made as to the lighting of the Fleet; nor, when Your Committee visited it, was it particularly dirty. The rule however seems to be, that each person keeps his room in the state of dirt or cleanliness agreeable to his own habits. In the opinion of Mr. *Williams*, the health of the prisoners would be improved if more care was taken upon this subject. 163.

The prisoners complain generally of a practice, which ought to be immediately remedied, namely, that the butchers and persons from the Fleet Market are permitted to come into the prison, for the purpose of using the privies, 158. 159. to the great inconvenience of the prisoners, who all consider the practice as a serious grievance. Your Committee recommend that care should be taken to remove the nuisance so complained of.

Your Committee advise, under the same circumstances as alluded to by them in their Report on the King's Bench, that a Commission should issue from the Crown, to devise new rules and regulations for the Fleet prison. They recommend also the appointment of a surgeon, and an allowance for medicine. And they are of opinion that the manner in which the officers of the prison are reimbursed, is most objectionable.

Your Committee however consider the general manner with which Mr. *Nixon*, the Deputy Warden, conducts the affairs of the prison, as most praiseworthy. It is the system, more than the manner of administering it, of which they complain; and while they consider the Deputy Warden as a valuable public servant, they trust means will be found to direct his zeal and attention to the management of a prison established on a better plan, and more calculated to increase the comforts and conveniencies, and to preserve uncontaminated and undestroyed the morals and habits, of those whom the laws of the country place under his control.

Marshalsea Prison. The MARSHALSEA is the Prison of the Court of the Marshalsea, and of the King's Palace Court of Westminster. By the authority of two patents of Charles the first and second, the jurisdiction of this court extends over the palace of Westminster and 12 miles around, Min. p. 206. excluding the members of the king's household. There is no limitation as to the amount of debt to be sued for therein.

It is also a prison for Admiralty prisoners under sentence by courts martial.

Sir

Marshalsea Prison.

Sir *James Bland Burges*, Bart. is constituted by letters patent Marshal of His Majesty's Household, and Marshal of the Marshalsea of the Household. As such he appoints the Officers of the prison. He is also, with the Lord Steward of the Household, and a regular law officer, one of the Judges of the Court. But beyond visiting the prison along with the other Judges, and the nomination of the Deputy and Under Marshal for life, Sir *James Bland Burges* does not consider himself as having any thing to do Min. p. 207. with the management of the prison, or to be liable for the debts in the cases of escapes. As Marshal of the Household, he enjoys a salary of 500*l.* per annum, and a fee of 20*d.* on the discharge of each prisoner, which amounts annually to about 20*l.*

Mr. *William Jenkins* holds the office of Deputy Marshal, Under Marshal, and Keeper of the prison of the Marshalsea, under two instruments App. Nos. 22, 23. bearing date the 12th and 23d of December 1811: the appointment is for life, or so long as he shall behave and demean himself well.

The Deputy Marshal receives a salary at St. James's, as an officer of His Majesty's household, of 300*l.* per annum; and his emolument from Min. p. 187. fees is on an average 80*l.*; he has also fees as Clerk of the Papers, which on the same calculation come to 74*l.*; he receives also 2 guineas a week for App. No. 26. the rent of the tap, and half a guinea a week for the chandler's-shop; making in the whole an income of between 500*l.* and 600*l.* per annum.

There are two turnkeys and two watchmen, paid by salaries and fees; App. No. 27. the amount of and particulars of which are contained in the Appendix.

The Surgeon, Mr. *C. Phillips*, receives for his attendance a fixed salary of 50*l.* paid by His Majesty's Government, and some small fees, which amount to about 9*l.* per annum, out of which he furnishes all the medicines, &c. &c. that may be required; but if any additional and better diet is Min. p. 188. necessary for the sick prisoners, Mr. *Jenkins* provides it, and he is reimbursed by His Majesty's Treasury.

The Chaplain is the Rev. Mr. *Trollope*, who has a salary of 50*l.* per annum, but who officiates by his deputy the Rev. Mr. *Webster*, to whom he gives 20*l.* a year and the fees, which amount to 10*l.* or 189. 12*l.* more.

The prison is divided into two buildings; the first for the debtors and the Admiralty prisoners, the second for that description of Admiralty prisoners who are sentenced to solitary imprisonment. They have separate yards, and have no communication with each other.

The debtors side of the prison is again divided into master's and common side. There are seven rooms appropriated to the latter, each of which is supposed to contain two persons; which number is seldom or ever 191. exceeded, and not often amounts to so many. Those who go on the poor side take an oath they are not worth 40 shillings. They have the 3*s.* 6*d.* per week county allowance by the statute, and the charities of the prison.

The average number of debtors is about 60. On the 5th of April 1814, 185. there were on the master's side, 54; on the poor, 10; making in all 64 App. No. 31. prisoners. When a debtor is brought in, a chum ticket is immediately given to him; if a room be vacant he is placed in it, if not, he is chummed on one already occupied. This is done upon a principle of rotation, beginning from the youngest prisoner till it reaches the oldest. If the prisoner be supersedable he does not lose his room, but he takes a chum Min. p. 185. sooner than those who are not in that situation. The system of buying out the chum exists also here; and by the custom of the prison the settled price to be paid is half a crown per week; those who are so paid, hire lodgings in the prison or sleep in the tap. No rent is paid for rooms, but,

Marshalsea Prison.

Min. p. 186. by the old regulations, bed and bedding were found by the gaoler, and the price fixed for the use of the same. This practice was in force in the old prison, when it was private property, but is now discontinued.

On the Admiralty side of the prison there are 10 cells, besides what is called the day-room, and a small yard with a pump in it. The number of prisoners varies from 6 to 10; there have been known once 18, and there were on the 5th of April 10. These prisoners are locked up every night in summer from half past seven, and in winter at four: the cells are opened at eight in the morning.

The men are allowed one shilling a day each.

There are no allowances whatever on the debtors side of the prison, with the exception of the county allowance of 3*s.* 6*d.* per week to those who swear they are not worth 10*l.* granted by statute, and the charities to those who take an oath they cannot command 40 shillings. The charities consist in money, bread, meat, &c. and are the gifts of individuals. No list of these charities is hung up in any part of the prison, though the Secretary of the prisoners has a copy, which any one has a right to inspect; in money they amount to about 140*l.* per annum. On the 5th of April there were 12 persons on that list. App. Nos. 29, 30. Min. p. 202.

There is an infirmary in the prison, yet it is seldom used as such; but there is none for the reception of the Admiralty prisoners. When Your Committee visited the prison, it was used as a place of confinement; ring bolts are fixed in the floor; and it is stated by the Deputy Marshal that the Admiralty prisoners, if riotous and disorderly, are confined therein, it being more airy and better fitted for that purpose than the two strong-rooms at the bottom of the building, the situation of which the Deputy Marshal did not think healthy or proper to lock up prisoners for any length of time. 189.

The conduct of the debtors within the Marshalsea is stated to be orderly and regular, and intoxication not common, though there be no stint in the sale of malt liquor. If the prisoners be intoxicated and not riotous, no notice is taken; but there is a sort of understanding said to exist, that if a person has drank freely, he is not to be supplied with more liquor. An understanding which, Your Committee observe, can have little weight, when set against the wish of the prisoner to buy, and the interest of the owner of the tap to sell. 187.

There is no separation between the male and female debtors. The wives and children of the prisoners are permitted to reside in the prison, the number of which amounted on the 5th of April to 56, 24 women and 32 children.

All strangers are admitted indiscriminately, from 8 in the morning to 10 at night, to visit the debtors and Admiralty prisoners on the debtors side, and no questions are asked if the women conduct themselves well, or in what relation they stand to the persons with whom they live. In the event of a debtor misconducting himself, and assaulting another, the Deputy Marshal does not consider that he has the power to punish him farther than by a few hours solitary confinement in the strong room; the usual way is to lodge a warrant of assault at Union Hall. 199. 191.

The Deputy Marshal resides constantly within the prison, and he inspects it regularly once a week or fortnight; but he then does not visit every room. The prison is tolerably clean. The Deputy Marshal gives directions as to preservation of cleanliness, and the taking away of the dirt, ashes, &c. and sees these orders are executed; but the scavenger is appointed and paid by the prisoners, and has a salary of 4*s.* per week. 188.

When

Marshalsea Prison.

When Your Committee visited the prison, they remarked the bad state of the drains, the yard of the prison being in part overflowed, from the quantity of waste water left on the surface. The Deputy Marshal informed them, that it was in the contemplation of His Majesty's Treasury to make some alterations, but that nothing had as yet been done. Your Committee are of opinion, that from the confined situation of the prison itself, the scanty yard, the want of a free circulation of air, the quantity of waste water that covers the court, the health of the prisoners may be materially affected; and they recommend the subject to be taken into the serious consideration of His Majesty's Government. It is however true that the sewers are generally bad in the Borough; but the Committee cannot admit that the difficulties of remedying this evil would be more than a temporary justification for the remissness of those whose bounden duty it is to find a fit place for the confinement of persons whom the laws of the country condemn to imprisonment. Min. p. 188. 196. 198.

The rules and regulations exhibited by the Deputy Marshal for the government of the new prison are good and well considered, and Your Committee have reason to believe they are uniformly and systematically acted upon. They feel it however to be their duty to offer a few comments on a code of rules and regulations which has been made by the prisoners themselves, and is in force within the prison; this code, to say the least of it, is in many particulars indecorous and improper; some of its rules are no doubt fitted for festive meetings, in seasons of gaiety and opulence, but they are little suited to the manners or necessities of a prison, where the property so wasted is not the debtor's but the creditor's, and where scenes of riot and dissipation are injurious and unwarrantable. App. No. 32.

This system has its foundation in a contribution levied on all prisoners, on the poor no less than on others, which in point of fact is a garnish, though bearing another name. Each male prisoner, on entering the prison, is called upon for 8*s.* and every female for 5*s.* 6*d.* The payment of this is stated not to be necessary, and never to be enforced; but it is also said that every one pays it, no instance to the contrary being known. On the payment of this money, each prisoner has the privilege of coming into the common room, of having boiling water from the fire, of cooking his dinner, for there is no public kitchen, and of reading the newspapers. Min. p. 202.

Your Committee object to any thing that has the appearance of garnish; a voluntary association of persons within the prison they have no inclination to oppose, but a practice that, though the name be changed, is in truth an exaction of money from each prisoner, however little he can afford to pay it, is most unwarrantable; for the levy of 8*s.* on a person who swears he is not worth 40*s.* in the world, is of the nature of the most cruel tax; it must be felt so by many, who are thus probably compelled to pinch themselves and their families in order to pay the contribution.

Every prisoner should be provided with all the necessaries of life; any additional indulgences he should be permitted to procure; but on no account should he be allowed to compel others to contribute to what they may have neither the power nor the inclination so to do. To the women this tax is peculiarly grievous; and Your Committee cannot do otherwise than recommend to His Majesty's Government, that the necessaries, such as coals, &c. should be furnished for the common room, and mops and brooms for the prison in general; and that the Deputy Marshal should put under some regulation the society of Collegians, as they term themselves. The funds of this College are managed by a committee of nine prisoners and a chairman, who assemble weekly; there is also a secretary, nominated monthly: as well as the master of the ale room, and the scavenger, to whom is paid

Marshalsea Prison. paid a salary of 4*s.* per week; the average weekly expense of the society is 1*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Your Committee feel the same objections here as elsewhere to the system of levying fees on the prisoners, for the emolument of the officers of the prison, and recommend the subject to the serious attention of His Majesty's Government. They also object to the Keeper of the prison having any interest in the coffee-house or tap. In the Marshalsea, the arguments against this practice have double force, not only for the reasons heretofore stated, the system in itself is bad; but the prisoners are very ill supplied with the liquor they want. The Deputy Warden compels the mistress of the tap, from whom Min: p. 198. he receives 2 guineas a week rent, to purchase the beer of a particular brewer, in order to make good to him the money he had lost by the bad debts of her predecessor. The mistress of the tap says it is bad, and that she sells 194. but little of it; the prisoners all complain of its quality; the consumers of the article are, if they wish to buy it out of the prison, compelled to pay 1 *d.* or ½ *d.* per pot in addition, and there is a very general discontent upon the subject.

There is also a complaint of the badness of the water. One of the wells is decidedly chalybeate; and the water that is furnished by the London 196. Bridge Company is turbid, and at times saline and unpalatable. The latter, however, is what all the houses in the neighbourhood are furnished with; but the badness of the water is, in the opinion of Your Committee, a very serious evil.

Your Committee had before them the Rev. Mr. *Webster*, who officiates for the chaplain, Mr. *Trollope*, and has done so for the last 17 or 18 years. Upon what principle the Chaplain considers his office to be a sinecure, Your Committee are at a loss to determine; neither do they understand the motives of those who, having the direction and management of the prison, have so long permitted it. The whole stipend is not large, and surely ought to go to the clergyman who does the duty. Divine service is performed once on Sundays, and on Christmas Day and Good Friday, and on Fast Days, when any are appointed. Mr. *Webster* attends the sick, if called upon, 200. but that rarely happens. He does not feel it to be a part of his duty voluntarily to admonish privately or advise with the Admiralty prisoners, who are in a state of solitary confinement, though he should do so if required. He has no written instructions, nor ever had any. There are no Bibles distributed in the prison, nor even provided for his use in the chapel; nor are there any Prayer-books for the prisoners. The subject was named to Mr. *Trollope* six months back, but nothing has as yet been done. There is no clerk provided, and the one who attends is paid by Mr. *Webster*. The Deputy Marshal rarely if ever attends chapel, and the congregation in general is small. The attendance is, however, perfectly voluntary. In this general remissness of religious duty on the part of almost every one connected with the prison, with the exception of Mr. *Trollope's* deputy, Mr. *Webster*, Your Committee recommend that an efficient chaplain should be provided; that he should have written instructions; and above all, that he should diligently attend to the great work of reforming the morals and correcting the bad habits of those who are confined under sentences of courts martial. The experience of those who have paid most attention to this important subject, fully warrants Your Committee in giving it as their decided opinion, that the clergyman in all gaols ought to be a most efficient public officer; and that upon his exertion it chiefly depends if the prisoner quits his place of confinement worse than he came into it, or whether he should receive such impressions of moral duties and religious obligations as may direct his conduct during the remainder of his life.

When

Marshalsea Prison.

When Your Committee visited the prison on the 5th of April, there were three Admiralty prisoners confined among the debtors. The crimes for which they suffered the sentence of imprisonment are contained in the Appendix. Your Committee cannot but deplore the continuance of a system of imprisonment that mixes these persons with debtors. They are generally midshipmen and warrant officers, mostly young men. The entire absence of all control, the riot in which they live, and the licentious examples that are before them, cannot fail to send them back to their profession and to the world worse members of society than when they first entered the walls of the prison. Min. p. 192.

Your Committee therefore conceive that this class of prisoners should be sent elsewhere, to some place suited to their age and their profession; and that they should be submitted to a discipline, which should have in view the occupation of their time, no less than the improvement of their morals.

Those who are sentenced to solitary confinement, as it is strangely termed, though separated at night, are shut up together in the day, and have no communication with the debtors: they have, however, the liberty of seeing their own friends at certain hours. Your Committee observe with pain that there is no classification, but that persons found guilty of crimes the most disgraceful, are mixed with others whose offences are of a quite different nature. 192.

The account in the Appendix will shew the different description of criminals so mixed together. Mr. *Jenkins* informed Your Committee, that in one instance he applied for and succeeded in getting the removal of a young man sentenced to solitary confinement, from this place, where, his offence having no resemblance to the crimes for which some of the other prisoners stood condemned, it was not fitting that he should remain with them. Your Committee recommend that a separation of these prisoners into classes, should take place without delay; and it surely cannot be difficult for the Admiralty to find, at one of the Naval Establishments of the country, some spot where a place of confinement, no less than a penitentiary-house, might be constructed. The system, as it at present exists in the Marshalsea, cannot be too strongly reprobated, which confounds all shades of guilt in the same punishment, and forces those whose offences are merely military, to associate with persons whose guilt is of another character and complexion. 192.

Your Committee recommend that the rules and regulations should be carefully revised; and that the state of the prison itself, no less than its discipline, should become matter for serious consideration of those who have the power to remedy the evils which exist therein.

New London Prison for Debtors.

IN consequence of instructions received by Your Committee, to examine into the state of the NEW LONDON PRISON for debtors; as well as to report on the changes and improvements that have taken place in the prisons of Newgate, and the Poultry, Giltspur-street, Ludgate, and Borough Compters; having inspected the New London prison, they called before them Mr. *Montague*, the City Surveyor to the Committee for the erection of the London prison. The progress made since last year has been considerable; though some months will elapse before the building will be finished. Annexed to this Report, are two PLANS of the Ground and Upper Story of the Prison. The works are stopped for want of money, the City of London having spent in purchases of land a great proportion of the sum voted by Parliament to be raised on the Orphans' Fund, which amounted to 90,000*l.*; 68,000*l.* of which was to be employed in the building of the prison. 32 or 33,000*l.* have been at present expended. Appendix, No. 33. Minutes, p. 208, 209.

Mr.

New London Prison. Min. p. 208. Mr. *Montague* thinks that the prison will be completed agreeably to the estimate; and if money be forthcoming, he will engage to have the whole fit for the occupation of all the prisoners by the 1st of August.

Since the Committee of the House of Commons sat last year, many alterations have taken place, and the construction of the prison is much improved. A spacious yard has been added, for air and convenience, for the enjoyment of the Poultry and Giltspur-street debtors. The plan is however adhered to, of keeping the Newgate, Ludgate, (Poultry, and Giltspur-street) debtors separate. This plan, in the opinion of Your Committee, has contributed very materially to cause that aukward and
209. incommodious construction of building and arrangement of space, of which they complain. They observe too, that the women debtors from all the Compters, as well as those from Newgate, are mixed together; and they are at a loss to conceive what peculiar privilege the male debtors have over the female, that shall exempt them from the operation of the same system.

No part of the prison is fire-proof, neither the floors nor the division
210. of the rooms; and Your Committee have much to regret that those who have had the management of the building, should have suffered a prison to be undertaken upon a plan so little likely to answer its object, as that which has been adopted by the London Committee.

They are also of opinion, that the placing debtors in large communities in the sleeping rooms, is a great aggravation to the pains of imprisonment; and they cannot conceive a mode by which the distressed situation of a debtor can be more augmented, or the forlorn condition of a decent and
209. respectable woman more aggravated, than the turning them on the first day of their arrival into a room with 6 to 15 persons, most of them probably strangers to the new comers, and many perhaps of characters and manners the most disreputable.

Such then is the plan and arrangement of the new London prison, which is, as far as the women's apartments, and those for the debtors from the Giltspur-street, Ludgate, and Poultry Compters, nearly completed. No alteration can now take place. But Your Committee cannot approve of the plan; and they regret that so much money has been so ill laid out.

They trust no time will be lost in completing the building, such as it is, as the removal of the crowds of prisoners which now incumber Newgate, as well as their proper classification, depends on that circumstance; and the more they have occasion to examine the latter prison, the more they feel convinced that every principle of duty imperiously calls upon the Magistracy of the City of London to adopt there a more improved system of management.

Your Committee called before them the Keepers of the Gaols of Newgate, Giltspur-street, Poultry, Ludgate, and Borough Compters, and examined them upon the alterations that had taken place in their respective prisons, as well as to the treatment of the prisoners since last year.

In the evidence contained in the Appendix, are copies of the Resolutions
p. 210, 211, p. 212, 213. of the City of London, of the 14th of June, 5th and 29th of July 1814, on those subjects; and Your Committee trust they will speedily be carried into execution. They observe that great and important changes have taken place in the allowance of food, coals, &c. and that most of the suggestions of the Committee of last Session have been adopted.

They see too, on examining the book of occurrences now kept in that prison, that the visitation of the Magistrates has been generally regular and

New London Prison.

and unremitting. They wish to suggest, however, that no week should elapse without every room in the prison being inspected by the visiting Magistrate, as it is in evidence that from the mode at present adopted it may happen that some part of Newgate may remain unvisited a fortnight or three weeks. Min. p. 217.

The Sub-Committee from the City, who travelled through England last year for the laudable purpose of inspecting the different gaols, have not as yet published their Report; but Your Committee trust that their researches will lead to great improvement in the general management of the gaols of the Metropolis.

The crowds of prisoners that are sent to Newgate still continue to frustrate all the attempts that have been made to introduce a system of classification therein; and it is with pain that Your Committee have learnt from the Ordinary, Mr. *Cotton*, his opinion as to the condition of the women criminal prisoners. They hope it is not in many prisons in England, where it can be said, "that swearing and drinking are among the women prisoners the prominent evils, that they stupify themselves to get rid of all reflection; that they have ceased to have any consciousness of sex, and that they seem to be unsexed when they come into the gaol." 224.

There are still many things left undone, which Your Committee trust the Magistrates of the City of London have not lost sight of. Garnish exists at present among the debtors of Newgate, though it has ceased altogether in the other prisons; and the vice of drunkenness is not attempted to be checked, except by the present practice of shutting out the friends of all the prisoners in the ward; thus punishing the innocent along with the guilty. 214, 216.

Your Committee observe, that neither Mr. *Cotton* nor Mr. *Manley Wood* have any written instructions. The former gentleman was appointed on the 29th of July last; and though the Town Clerk has repeatedly promised he should have his instructions, they have not as yet been sent. Mr. *M. Wood* has understood, from some private conversation with some Aldermen, that things are to remain as they are for the present, and in the meanwhile he does the duty of Chaplain without any remuneration. 221. 227.

Your Committee remark with surprise, that the Magistrates of the City of London have thought fit to nominate a Chaplain, whose ordinary residence is six miles distant from the prison. Mr. *Wood*, however, the person so appointed, seems to perform the stated duties with regularity. But it is in evidence, that he has not visited the Borough Compter on week days for the last two or three months. 230

Mr. *Cotton's* attendance in Newgate is regular and constant; and though his endeavour to do good is at present but a cheerless task, yet his establishment of a school for boys, and the separation of them from the other prisoners, are important steps taken towards that classification of age and character, so essential to the good government of a prison.

Your Committee recommend, that as soon as possible after any prisoner arrives in Newgate, his age and all that is known concerning him, be communicated to the Ordinary; for at present Mr. *Cotton* is obliged to hunt out any information he may wish for how he can, there being no system established, by which, as a matter of course, any report is made to him upon those subjects.

Your Committee recommend also to the Magistrates of the City of London to adopt some plan for the removal of their convict prisoners from Newgate, those who, from their advanced time of life, or from other infirmities, cannot

New London Prison. Min. p. 226. undergo their sentence. The Ordinary says, "that there are in Newgate from 20 to 30 prisoners under sentence of transportation, who are old, infirm, blind, &c. and are deemed incapable of being disposed of to the hulks, or transported." Prisoners of such description are a great burthen on the prison. Amongst them is an old man, stone blind; and two old women, of 68 and 70 years of age.

Since Your Committee sat last year, the Borough Compter has become
229. a prison for felons and persons charged with and convicted of misdemeanors, as well as for debtors. On the 14th of April there were within its walls, 14 debtors, 4 felons, 9 misdemeanors, and one fine. There does not appear to be sufficient accommodation for the different descriptions; the prisoners for misdemeanors are classed with the debtors; the tried and
229. untried felons are mixed together. There is but one water-closet for the men and women. It is stated by the Gaoler, that a boy of eleven
230. years of age, by the name of *Rich^d Baldwin*, was kept among the female debtors; though Your Committee observe that in the gaol calendar, that boy is said to be 14. All these things ought to be corrected; and Your Committee trust the Magistrates of the City of London will proceed in the great work of reformation which they have begun, placing all the prisons within their extensive jurisdiction in such a state of arrangement and discipline, as shall furnish to the Counties and Cities of the Empire the most beneficial example.

1 May 1815.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX.

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No. 2.—Appointment of William Jones, Esq. to be Marshal of the Marshalsea of the Court of King's Bench - - - p. 241
No. 3.—King's Bench Prison, Rules and Orders, 25 November 1729 - - - ibid.
No. 4.—Order of Court, Easter Term 35 George III, for fixing the Rules or Bounds of the King's Bench Prison - - - p. 244
No. 5.—Rules and Orders for the Government of the King's Bench Prison, and Table of Fees; 1759—1760 - - - ibid.
No. 6.—Chum Tickets: Notice of the Marshal of the King's Bench Prison for regulating the Delivery of them; January 1, 1810 - - - p. 246
Nos. 7 & 8.—Several Rules of Court, respecting the Government of the King's Bench Prison p. 247
No. 9.—Copy of Justice's Warrant entitling a Prisoner to relief on County Act;—and Form of Affidavit made by Prisoners to entitle them to receive the County Allowance - ibid.
No. 10.—Return of Gross and Net Amount of the Emoluments of the Office of Marshal of the King's Bench Prison - - - p. 248
No. 11.—Return of Josiah Boydell, Deputy Marshal of the King's Bench Prison, of his Annual Profit - - - p. 249
No. 12.—Return of the supposed Annual Profits of the Clerk of the Papers - - - ibid.
No. 13.—Return of the Marshal, of his Annual average Receipts; of the number of Married Women living with their Husbands; of the number of Children; of the number of Persons who have Rooms to themselves; and of the number of Prisoners within the Walls, and within the Rules (13 March 1815) - - - ibid.
No. 14.—Return of the whole Amount of Fees on Commitment and Discharge of every Prisoner, p. 250
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No. 21.—D° - - D° - - of the Number of Prisoners on the Common Side on 25 March last; of the greatest Number on the Poors Box; &c. - - - p. 260

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No. 25.—Rules and Orders of the New Prison of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts - p. 262
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No. 27.—Amount of Salaries, Fees and other Emoluments of the Turnkeys and other Officers of the Prison of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts; 1812—1814 - - - ibid.
No. 28.—Fees received by the Deputy Marshal of the Prison of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts, performing the Duty of Clerk of the Papers, &c. of the said Prison - - p. 264
No. 29.—Legacies and other Charitable Donations to the Common Side of the Prison of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts - - - ibid.
No. 30.—Legacies for the Discharge of Debtors confined in the Prison of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts - - - p. 265
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Appendix, No. 1.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Committee on the State of the *King's Bench*, *Fleet*, and *Marshalsea* Prisons, &c.

Jovis, 9° *die Martij*, 1815.

At the House of *William Jones*, Esq. Marshal of The King's Bench Prison:

The Honourable Henry Grey Bennet, in The Chair.

IN consequence of certain Information, communicated privately to Mr. Bennet, the Committee thought it expedient immediately to call before them, and examine, Mr. *Butt*.

Mr. *Richard Gathorne Butt*, called in, and Examined.

Mr. R. G. Butt.

Lord Cochrane's Servant told me on Tuesday morning last, that his Lordship had mentioned to him, on the Monday evening, that he was going out of the Bench, meaning the King's Bench; that he the Servant expressed his surprise at it, and said he did not understand him; upon which he Lord Cochrane said, "Richard, you get my breakfast and dinner to-morrow as usual (laughing at "the time;) obey my orders, do what I tell you; the gentlemen in power here "and me understand each other." On Tuesday morning last, in the same conversation, the same servant informed me, that he Lord Cochrane had been absent all Monday night, and he had never seen him since; and this morning he has repeated to me the same thing. On Sunday last I was in Lord Cochrane's room, Mr. Basil Cochrane was present; Lord Cochrane, touching his hand, said, "Bank Notes have a charm." From previous conversation I had had with Lord Cochrane, as well as what passed at this time, I understood him Lord Cochrane to mean by that expression, that money would liberate him from prison. He Lord Cochrane, during the course of the conversation, said, "I never will pay the fine, I assure you;" upon which Mr. Basil Cochrane said, "Then you will be liable to be taken up in the streets." The above conversation passed after dinner in a laughing manner. On Thursday or Friday last, Lord Cochrane told me he had made his will, and settled all his concerns in this life, and had deposited his will at Mr. Coutts the banker's; he had previously requested me to be his trustee, which I declined, adding at the same time, that I should be extremely happy so to do, but that under the circumstances of my situation, he must pardon me for declining it: upon which he Lord Cochrane said, "Do not, if it is unpleasant to you." This latter conversation, respecting the trusteeship, took place on the Monday or Tuesday preceding. About a month ago, he Lord Cochrane said to me, "I am very "desirous to go and see my lamps in Soho, and I have a great mind to go there "and return again." I laughed at him, and treated it as a joke.

When Lord Cochrane spoke of his influence with the gentlemen in power in the

Mr. R. G. Butt.

the prison, did he speak of his power with any particular individual, or generally ?—No ; generally.

About the same time that the conversation took place about seeing the lamps I said to Lord Cochrane, jokingly, I hope if you go out of the prison, you will not follow Cochrane Johnstone to France. Upon which he Lord Cochrane said, "No, that I certainly shall not, I shall not quit the Country ; my plan is formed." This he appeared to me to say seriously. He expressed great indignation against Lord Ellenborough. Lord Cochrane had, I know, a great command of money, as much as he wished.

Richard Carter, called in, and Examined.

Richard Carter.

Has lived as servant with Lord Cochrane upwards of 12 years.

When did you last see Lord Cochrane ?—On Monday last, between 5 and 6 o'clock, or thereabouts.

Did any conversation pass between you and Lord Cochrane at that time ?—Yes ; his Lordship stated, that he intended going out of the prison : I jokingly asked him if he had got a pardon ? he answered, No ; that the gentlemen outside and he understood each other : that I must get his breakfast as usual in the morning, and his dinner as usual, if he did not return ; which I accordingly have regularly done. He said at the time, "I *may* be back in the morning." He cautioned me not to take any notice to any body. He said nothing more than he had several times previously said, that "he thought he should get out soon." With the exception of Mr. Basil Cochrane, and a Mr. Jackson who resides in Charlotte-street Blackfriars, and who formerly acted as his secretary, I am not aware of any person having been lately to visit Lord Cochrane. I made Lord Cochrane's bed on Monday last, and went into his room next morning about half past 8, and found the bed apparently in the same state, and as if it had not been slept in. No one has been in his Lordship's room but myself, since Sunday morning, till this morning. Lord Cochrane has no key of the room ; I have the only key of the room, and have had it in my pocket ever since Tuesday morning. When I went to the door on the Tuesday morning, the key was left upon the top of a cupboard outside the door. I suppose his Lordship to have gone away in his ordinary dress, a blue great coat with frogs ; what other clothes he might have, I can't tell : I am not aware that he had any other clothes in which he could disguise himself.

Whom did you understand Lord Cochrane to allude to, when he spoke of his understanding with the gentlemen on the outside ?—I concluded it was the turnkeys at the gate.

Do you know of his Lordship having ever been absent from the prison before ?—No, never ; and never heard him say he had been out.

Have you any reason to suspect Lord Cochrane had ever made any preparation to escape without the aid of the turnkey ?—No, never.

William Jones, Esq. the Marshal of the King's Bench Prison,
called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

Informed, by the Chairman, of the fact of Lord Cochrane's escape. A letter was produced, found upon Lord Cochrane's chimney, directed to "Mr. Bull ;" which being delivered by the Chairman unopened to Mr. Jones the marshal, Mr. Jones opened the letter, which he now delivers in, and which is marked with the letter A, and is in the words and figures following :

Letter referred to.

A.

~~respectful~~

L^{d} C. presents his ^ ~~Compt.~~ Respects to Mr. Bull — & begs that he will have the goodness to inform him how much he is in his debt for the use of the place which he had the goodness to favour him for his servant.—

Mr. Bull.

(but no date.)

Had you any knowledge or suspicion of Lord Cochrane's having effected his escape ?—None whatever : and I am astonished to hear it ; and am positive that he

William Jones, Esq.

he could not effect his escape over the wall; and if the escape *has* been effected, of which I cannot of course be certain till a search has taken place in the prison, it must have been effected by disguise; and he must have disguised himself very effectually, as there are three doors, through which he must have passed, which are attended by three most confidential officers, servants, one of whom has been a turnkey upwards of 25 years, and two servants called Criers, who are generally in the lobby, and know the persons of all the prisoners.

[Mr. Bennet the Chairman here informed the Committee, That soon after his entering the prison he was accosted by a person named Prescott, who told him that Mr. Butt wished to communicate to him something that was extraordinary and most wonderful. On descending from the room of Mr. Butt, the same person stopped him, Mr. Bennet, and asked him if it was not most extraordinary; to which Mr. Bennet made no answer.]

Thomas Leveson Prescott, a prisoner in the King's Bench;
called in, and Examined.

Is a Lieutenant in the Navy.

T. L. Prescott.

What did you mean by asking Mr. Bennet, if what Mr. Butt had communicated was not most wonderful?—Mr. Butt had several times mentioned to me a circumstance concerning a Mr. Halkett, which would lead to the most extraordinary discovery, but what it was I don't know, except that Mr. Butt said it would astonish every one; and which I understood him was to be made the subject of a motion in the House of Commons: that was the only thing I alluded to when I spoke to Mr. Bennet. I have frequently had conversations with Lord Cochrane, about the wall; in some of which he observed, how difficult it would be to get over the wall of the prison, on account of the machines upon the top, which moved by the wind; but how easy it would be to get out of the prison by means of money, which would open the gates of every place; and were he sentenced to the King's Bench for life, he should not have been there twenty-four hours.

When did you last converse with Lord Cochrane's servant?—I think I spoke to him this morning about half past eight; I merely inquired after his Lordship, it being understood he was ill. I have not seen his Lordship himself, to talk to him, since Sunday. We are well acquainted, being old brother officers.

Did you understand any distinct allusion to individuals, when he spoke of his ability to get out of prison by means of money?—No; he only spoke generally.

Veneris, 10° *die Martij*, 1815.

At The House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

William Jones, Esq. called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

YOU are the marshal of the King's Bench prison?—I am, and have been so ever since the 19th of March 1791.

By whom appointed?—By His Majesty; by His sign manual.

Have you got a copy of your appointment with you?—I have not; I can produce the original, or a copy at any time.

At whose recommendation were you appointed?—Lord Kenyon's.

Is it the recommendation of the Chief Justice for the time being?—Yes.

At what salary?—No salary whatever.

In what way are you paid?—By fees of office.

Do you pay your servants out of those fees?—I pay clerks, and turnkeys, and watchmen, and assistants of all descriptions; sometimes I employ a great many.

How many regular clerks and turnkeys have you?—Three clerks, three regular turnkeys, and two or three sometimes four criers; four constant watchmen; sometimes a great many more, depending upon circumstances.

At what salaries are the turnkeys and the clerks?—I allow the turnkeys a guinea a week, and they have fees upon commitments besides, so as to make

their

William Jones, Esq.

their situations, which they ought to be, very good ones, for their places are places of very great trust and confidence.

Fees are taken at the commitment and discharge of each prisoner?—They are so.

Who is the deputy marshal?—Mr. Josiah Boydell.

The appointment is in yourself?—Yes; the appointment of all inferior officers.

What is the salary of the deputy marshal?—He has no salary whatever; he has a share of fees, as in the printed list which I shall produce; all the fees are contained in that paper.

You appointed him?—Yes.

What is his duty?—Always to attend the Chief Justice when he goes into court, not only the court of Westminster Hall, but the royal levees; and his fee is specified in that list.

He has no duty within the walls of the prison?—Regularly not; I do not like to have any body to interfere with me in the regulation of the prison; I like to have every body under my own command.

What other officers have you?—A clerk of the papers.

Who is clerk of the papers?—A nephew of mine, of the name of William Hughes, was clerk of the papers; he is dead, and I have not yet appointed another.

Have you not a clerk of the Rules?—There is a clerk of the day rules.

Who is he?—I am myself clerk of the day rules.

What office does Mr. Brooshooft fill?—He is my clerk and general manager; he has no appointment; he has no fee whatever; he is paid by me.

Is there a chaplain to the prison?—There is; and he has fees also, which are stated in the paper; fees on commitment, which are received by the judge's clerk at chambers.

He has no salary from you or from the county?—None at all.

What is the name of the chaplain?—The Reverend William Evans.

Is the table of fees hung up in a conspicuous part of the prison?—Always; and I have had it printed on very strong paper.

In what part of the prison are these papers hung up?—Always in the lobby of the prison; there are generally two or three hung up in the King's Bench coffee house, and in the tap.

They are not at present hung up in any other part of the prison but the lobby, are they?—I believe they are; they take them down very often as fast as they are put up.

Those fees are signed agreeably to the statute of George the Second?—They are signed and settled so long ago as the 33d year of George the Second.

[The Witness delivered in a printed table of the fees.]

Does that table include the fees paid to the different officers of the prison, as well as yourself?—The fees paid to every one.

That table has not been altered in any respect since the year 1759?—I can make oath, that I have not directly or indirectly permitted to be received for my use, one halfpenny more than the fees stated in this table from prisoners within the King's Bench.

Have you reason to believe that any others have received fees to which they were not entitled?—I have every reason to believe they have not.

Have you any means of knowing to what the fees received by the inferior officers amount annually?—No; I can tell pretty nearly, my own particularly upon commitments and discharges, which I suppose are the principal things which it is wished to know, and I can from that pretty nearly calculate the amount of the fees payable to other persons.

Besides the fees, are there any rents received by you from persons holding houses within the walls of the prison?—None; there is not a house within the walls.

For rooms?—Yes, for rooms regularly; there are about 200 rooms in the prison from which I receive rent, eight of which are called state rooms, for which I am entitled to receive weekly 2*s.* 6*d.* each.

Unfurnished?—Yes; for all the rest I am entitled to take 1*s.* per week, that is, if two live in the room they pay me sixpence a-piece, if three fourpence a-piece, so as to make up the shilling between them; but I never take any rent from those who are not able to pay.

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These also are unfurnished of course?—They are.

What is the greatest number of persons ever placed by you or chummed in each room?—I have hardly ever chummed more than three together; but that requires explanation; on coming in they become entitled to a room; we endeavour to place a poor prisoner with a rich one, that the rich inhabitant may buy out the other, and they have sometimes paid 3*s.* 6*d.* a week to the other for giving up his chummage in the room; the poor prisoner finds many in the same situation as himself, and those who are paid out will live six or seven in a room; the money they receive for giving up their chummage, enables them to live with the county allowance.

Is it by an arrangement among the prisoners themselves, that any one prisoner can get a separate room?—Entirely for the accommodation of the prisoner I overlook this; in strictness I ought to make a man inhabit his own room, but I should think it a hardship, and the poor part of the prisoners would not be able to live so well if I were to enforce that.

Is it the custom for the wealthy prisoners to purchase the absence of those quartered in the same room?—It is; that is an arrangement of which I have no knowledge, except in case of a complaint being made to me I interfere, and punish the person who imposes upon the other; I have nothing to do but to try to get my shilling a week per room.

In case of extortion, you interfere to prevent their taking more than they should; supposing two persons are chummed in one room, and one wishes to purchase the absence of another, what do you consider a reasonable sum for the purchase of that prisoner's absence?—It depends upon the furniture; sometimes a man brings in bed and furniture, and then they charge a good deal more, but that I have nothing to do with; it depends a great deal upon the room, sometimes they have 2*s.* sometimes 2*s.* 6*d.* sometimes 3*s.* and sometimes, if the room is a very good one, as high as 5*s.* but it is always kept a secret from me, for if they buy and sell the rooms in that way, I ought to deprive them of the rooms.

Is there any great difference in the rooms?—There are some very pleasant; those in the back part of the prison are not so pleasant as the others; the higher rooms are looked upon to be the pleasantest and the best; they are all nearly of the same size.

What sum taken for absence from a room should you consider an imposition?—I should think any thing exceeding 3*s.* 6*d.* would be imposition.

How are the rooms given; are they given in rotation?—Not in rotation; because I have a power, in case of persons behaving improperly, to deprive them of their room, and put them into a worse room. If a man comes he is entitled to chummage upon a room, and has his chum ticket given him immediately on his entrance into the prison.

How does the chummage take place?—When a prisoner comes in he applies of course to the chum master, who procures him a ticket, and it is given him immediately.

Who is the chum master?—In general one of the turnkeys.

What is the name of the present?—Christopher Morris.

Is he a superior or inferior turnkey?—There is no difference between the turnkeys.

Then the turnkey decides upon the room to be given?—No, he does not; the chum master knows which is the room best able to bear it. If we have 600 prisoners and 200 rooms, there must be three upon a room.

Does the chum ticket given him express the room to which he is to go?—Yes, it has the number upon it.

The turnkey is the chum master?—The turnkey delivers out the ticket, but it is all under my direction; I never suffer them to do any thing without my direction.

Prior to receiving the chum ticket, is it necessary the fees should be paid for the entrance to the prison?—It is necessary the fees should be paid for the entrance into the prison, if they are able to pay them.

Prior to the receipt of the chum ticket?—If they are not able to pay, they go in without paying; my positive directions are never to distress a poor man.

How do you know whether they are able to pay?—We generally know pretty well; but those who come to the King's Bench prison are not sent as they are into county prisons; they are obliged to go there, but they generally come

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come to the King's Bench prison on suing out a Habeas Corpus on their own motion.

Do you conceive the party is entitled to a chum ticket, before he has paid the fees upon admisssion?—Regularly he is not entitled, but that we never exact; they are entitled to a chum ticket, whether they are rich or poor, without fee or reward; and I have always punished the person receiving, when a present has been given for a chum ticket; whenever it has been done, it has been done without my knowledge or consent.

Have you often been obliged to punish persons for taking presents for chum tickets?—Not often; my officers now are very regular; fourteen or fifteen years ago, I was obliged to turn away a man for taking a present.

There is no fee whatever for the chum ticket?—None at all.

Have you ever found it necessary to punish a turnkey for receiving preference money for chum-tickets?—No, I have not; there was a man a great while ago, who did take for chum tickets what I thought was improper, and I discharged him; but nothing of the kind has come to my knowledge lately.

In point of fact, does the party generally receive a chum ticket the same day or the day after he comes?—Yes, they are entitled to it; and if any of my officers refused them a chum ticket on their application, I should punish them immediately.

Supposing no chum ticket was given to a prisoner, there would be no room into which he was entitled to go?—No, certainly not; but there are very few who come there, who have not friends in the inside to whom they may go immediately, and who will give them information; but most of them indeed come there before hand; when they have put in bail, they very frequently come to see their way before they are committed.

Is the prison ever so full, that you have not the means of chumming people?—Never so full, that we have not the means; we have hardly ever more than 600 prisoners; a little while ago, the prison was so amazingly full, on the expectation of Lord Redesdale's Act, that we scarcely knew what to do with them, and we are very full at present.

Do you know of any persons who have not been able to get a room from not having their chum ticket given them?—No; if they sent to me, I make a point of letting them have it immediately.

Have you any list, by which it appears who are chummed in particular rooms?—The rental book names every room in the prison.

With the names of the persons in each room?—Yes.

If they change their chummage, can you ascertain that?—We ascertain who are entitled to be there.

Your only way of discovering where they are, is an indirect one?—Yes.

Can you inform the Committee, how many rooms there are in the prison now, occupied by persons singly?—There are many.

If a person is brought at nine o'clock at night, and ignorant of the rules of the prison, is there any regulation by which he would have a chum ticket offered him, or might he remain in the court yard of the prison during the whole of the night?—By his asking the chum master for it.

The question supposes the prisoner to be ignorant?—They are generally acquainted, and if my officers do not give a chum ticket immediately on their coming, they do not proceed according to my direction.

Have you had any complaints lately of chum tickets not being given immediately?—No, I have not; I never had a complaint made that I did not attend to immediately.

How do you proceed, by punishing the officer, or giving the ticket?—By doing both.

Do you remember a complaint of that nature being made, and having punished an officer who was found guilty of it?—I have not lately had occasion.

At any time?—The man to whom I refer, Englefield, I found had taken money for chum tickets, and I turned him away for it.

Does it necessarily follow upon the delivery of the chum ticket, that that obliges the person to receive the new comer into his room?—Immediately.

Does it never happen that a person may have a chum ticket delivered to him on one day, and yet not be admitted into the room for several days afterwards?—If a man will not receive another into his room I immediately interfere and order it to be done, and sometimes deprive that man of his room for this resistance.

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Can that pass over twenty-four hours without its coming through your officer to you?—I should apprehend not.

Have you complaints of partiality and preference in granting the chum tickets on account of not paying fees; does a man for instance come and say, "Because I did not pay my fees they have chummed me in that very bad room?"—I have had no such complaints.

You have but few women in the gaol?—Very few indeed, the proportion is as thirty to about six hundred.

In the case of women you have not the same choice as to chumming?—We take care to put women together, and if a woman of the town comes in, we generally put them together, so as not to annoy a modest woman by putting her with an immodest woman, if we can possibly help it; I believe there are not twenty women prisoners in the King's Bench now.

In the case of persons who when they first come to you are able to rent rooms, but afterwards become distressed in their circumstances and can no longer rent, do they get a chum ticket immediately?—They are entitled to a chum ticket immediately; those in the state rooms never have a person chummed upon them; as to all the rest they have chum tickets.

Is there any notice given to persons coming into the prison, that they must make application for a chum ticket before they can be lodged?—There is no regulation written up, but sometimes eight or ten prisoners come in together; the turnkeys are obliged, in order that they may know their countenances and persons, to keep them sitting in the lobby in order to converse with them, to know their voices and their manners, before they are turned into the prison; they enter into conversation with them in different ways, that they may not escape through the door afterwards without being known, and then they go to the lower lobby: in the course of that conversation it is the duty of the turnkeys to let the poor know this; the first thing a poor man will ask, where am I to go to, and he will tell him.

Is it a duty, that in your belief is usually practised?—Oh, certainly, I should be very angry if they did not do it; they have my directions to do it.

It does not come to your knowledge, that any individuals have been obliged to walk the parade, or to sleep on benches, on account of not having a chum ticket?—No, it does not.

Have they ever paid so much as half a guinea a week for rooms?—Yes, they have paid as much as that to one another; some time ago one took two or three guineas a week of another for his absence, and I made him refund the money when I found it out.

Under what circumstances has that taken place?—A man has furnished his rooms very handsomely, and then he has bought out his chum; and then has himself let the room, and let it handsomely furnished to a rich prisoner who has come in; but I have prevented that whenever it came to my knowledge. I have prevented imposition upon those occasions as much as I possibly could.

Supposing a man to have furnished a room, and made such an arrangement as you have described, how can he prevent your assigning another chum to that room?—In case his chums go out we generally put another chum, one who is glad to be paid out, the same as his predecessor was; but if we chum a man to that room, he has a right to go in; therefore a man furnishes a room on a very great uncertainty in the King's Bench.

So that after a man pays his two chums out of his room, he may have one, two, three or four more chummed upon him?—No, we never exceed three upon a room.

Is it universal that three would never be put to any one room, unless there were two chums on each room?—Certainly not; if there are 400 prisoners there would be two; when once they exceed 400 then we begin chumming three.

Do you begin with three in a room according to any known rules, or is it optional to which rooms you put three?—It is optional; when a poor man comes in, we generally assist him by chumming him upon some person who can buy him out.

Your chumming is never disproportionate?—No; we never chum four to a room till there are three to each; in case of any prisoner going out, we generally take them in rotation and fill up the rooms.

You do not remove the prisoners from one room to another; but if they remain for a considerable time, they keep to the same room?—Yes; I never deprive them of their chum ticket, unless they are guilty of any irregularity; if they introduce

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introduce liquor into their room, and into the prison, it is a great punishment to deprive them of their chummage.

Would lengthened residence give a person any preference as to the room?—No, not at all; but I never deprive a man of his chummage unless for some improper conduct; there is a man who has been in the prison ever since I became Marshal, and has been removed once, and that at his own request.

What is the greatest number of persons you have had within the walls of the King's Bench within the last twelve months?—That return is now preparing, agreeably to the order of the Committee.

Where do those people sleep who sell their chummage?—There are many who have sold their chummages like themselves, and they make shift to live in a room a great many together, perhaps six or seven of them sometimes in one room.

What is the size of those rooms?—I think they are about fourteen feet square.

Most of them are alike, except that some are a little larger than others?—Yes; most of them, except the state rooms.

Are they secured from fire?—Great part of them; a great part of the prison, nearly two-thirds of it was burnt down some years ago, and then it was rebuilt, with roofs groined; but there is one-third part of the prison which is not secured from fire; if a fire was to happen in two-thirds of it, it would not I hope communicate to the other rooms.

Do you know that it is the practice of some of the poorer classes to sleep on benches at the tap?—Yes, I do; they are entitled to it; the fire at the tap is always warm, and anybody has a right to go there.

In that case do they sleep in their clothes?—Yes, they do.

Do they sleep there by necessity or by choice?—By choice.

They are not obliged to do it, in consequence of want of chummage?—No, unless they have sold their chummage; and a great many sleep in the chapel; it is a very comfortable room; it is cleaned out against Sunday, when the clergyman comes; but it would be very inconvenient to part with so much room on the week days.

Persons sleeping in that way is completely a voluntary act?—Perfectly so.

Do they introduce beds into the chapel?—They may introduce rugs or something of that sort; there are benches they sleep on, they are always cleaned out against the Sunday.

Supposing a prisoner proves to you that he cannot provide a rug, or any thing of that sort, is one provided for him by you?—If I provide it, it must be at my own cost; but there are very few so poor as that.

What is the description of prisoners who come into the King's Bench?—They are generally people who can afford to live when they do come, and come with plenty of money in their pockets; of late that has been very much the case, and there are many who make a living there, who would think it a hardship to be turned out; I have often been obliged to turn them out.

How do they come there?—If arrested in any county, and they go to the County Gaol, they sue out a Habeas Corpus, and are brought before a Judge of the King's Bench; they must employ an attorney and be at the expense of that; but that is to enable them to come to the King's Bench, where they can live more comfortably; a man who is desirous of employing himself in the King's Bench may, by brushing clothes or keeping a shop, make a living, when he cannot out of doors; under Mr. H. Thornton's Act, with the County allowance, they may do very comfortably; the very instant they come into the prison they are entitled to 3*s.* 6*d.* a week; the allowance is 700*l.* a year, and very frequently there are not claimants for the whole.

What becomes of the balance?—It goes to some charity.

What do you allude to when you say that you have been obliged to turn them out?—Under a rule of Court, when prisoners not charged in execution upon mesne process have been supersedable for six months, I have a power of turning them out; if they are not charged in execution within three terms after they have been committed, at the end of six months after the end of the three terms they become supersedable; and I have a power, under rule of Court, of turning them out.

Do you turn numbers out of the King's Bench?—Since the Insolvent Debtors Act I have had no occasion.

Had you occasion before that Act?—Yes; and I had interest made with me

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by very respectable persons, to permit persons who have made interest with them, to remain there, because they could make a living there, which they could not in other places.

State the other descriptions of prisoners?—Persons in London and Middlesex, and the adjoining counties, who render in discharge of bail or are committed for want of bail, on arrest on mesne process; they go before a Judge or into Court, and are committed to the King's Bench.

What other descriptions of prisoners have you?—There are persons committed by the Court for misdemeanors.

Are those all?—Those are all.

Supposing a person of any of these descriptions came into the prison, without anything in his pocket, what would become of him; how would he be treated?—There were three poor men last year convicted of some offence against the Excise Laws; they had nothing in their pockets; they were to be sent down to some of the distant counties; they were in the King's Bench for some time, and allowed them 1 *s.* 6 *d.* per day out of my own pocket; I never suffer a man to want.

Have the persons who render themselves in discharge of their bail, or are given up by their bail, the option of going to the King's Bench or any other prison?—No; it depends upon the Court in which the writ has been sued out against them. If the writ has been sued out in the Court of King's Bench, of course they come to the King's Bench prison; if in the Court of Common Pleas they go to the Fleet prison, as a matter of course.

A person has no right to obtain a removal from the Fleet to the King's Bench?—A person by having an action brought against him in the King's Bench is brought before a Judge of that Court, and committed to the prison of that Court, and vice versa.

If persons are committed for misdemeanors under the sentence of the Court, would they be entitled to the 3*s.* 6*d.* per week under the late Act?—No.

How do the debtors entitle themselves to the 3*s.* 6*d.*?—There is a form of an oath which they swear before a commissioner, that they cannot command the sum of 10*l.* and then they are immediately entitled to their 3*s.* 6*d.* per week.

Does the magistrate who makes an order upon these affidavits see the prisoner?—Not always.

Do they go out to the magistrate?—No, he generally comes to the prison. Mr. Toulmin, who is near, generally comes to the prison; Mr. Henry Thornton, who brought in the Act, wished me to have them brought before me, and I begged to be excused having any thing to do with that money.

Is it in the power of the turnkeys, either to enable or prevent the prisoners receiving this county allowance?—It is in the power of the turnkeys to enable them, and they always do give them every assistance in their power.

Is there any instruction to that effect written up in the prison?—No, there is not; but they have my instructions to forward their application.

Persons committed for misdemeanors have no right to any legal allowance?—I believe none; but it very seldom occurs that persons committed to the King's Bench for misdemeanors require it.

What is the expense of the affidavit to receive the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per week?—There is none at all.

Are those affidavits made only in case of Mr. Toulmin coming?—There are several magistrates round, and they are always ready to come whenever they are sent for.

Is there no expense in sending a message to the magistrate?—I dare say any of our people are ready to call upon a magistrate for them, but most of them have friends who can call upon a magistrate.

If a person given up by his bail, or rendering in discharge of his bail, comes without any property, he must depend upon his 3*s.* 6*d.* a week, and what he gets by selling his chummage?—I do not know of any other dependence he has, unless he is there long enough to get his sixpences under the Lords Act, and then he is not entitled to the county allowance.

Is not the greatest number of debtors in the prison of the King's Bench those confined under mesne process?—Now, certainly there is no doubt, in consequence of Lord Redesdale's Act, immense numbers come there upon mesne process, and they are discharged before they have even an opportunity of applying under the Lords Act, for they may be entitled to their discharge within three months after their commitment.

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Are any prisoners committed in execution to the King's Bench in the first instance?—Yes, very often.

Are there not many who claim the county allowance, whom from their dress or other indications you consider very improper objects of it?—Indeed I think so.

If such a circumstance came to your knowledge, as that any person had seen a prisoner possessed of a large sum of money, should you take any step to prevent the fund being defrauded?—I never have done so.

As Marshal of the King's Bench, do you not consider yourself guardian for the due administration of that fund?—No, I do not.

Do you consider anybody else?—I leave it to the magistrate entirely; I have no power over that fund.

If you knew of any fraud, either practised or about to be practised upon that fund, would you feel it your duty to communicate it to the magistrate?—Most undoubtedly I should.

Mr. Toulmin has the distribution of that fund?—No; he is a magistrate living close by the King's Bench, and he comes whenever he is sent for to swear a prisoner, and indeed many magistrates in the Borough are very ready to come and swear them.

Who has the distribution of the money?—Mr. Hope, a clerk of Mr. Lawson; the Clerk of the Peace attends weekly to pay the allowance, and I believe the magistrates take a good deal of pains about it.

You say many prisoners sleep in the chapel?—Yes.

Do they take their meals in the chapel also?—No, they do not.

Do they make it a sitting room?—Yes, they sometimes sit there in the day-time.

Is it a customary thing?—Yes, it is.

Do they take liquor in and drink there?—I believe they do sometimes.

Have any prisoners lately been seen with large sums of money?—I did not see it myself, but I was informed a person saw another with a 1,000 *l.* bank note in his hand, and that he had also a 500 *l.* note.

Was he imprisoned for debt or for a misdemeanor?—For debt; but he did not claim under any Act to my knowledge.

Is he there now?—I believe he is now in the prison.

Have persons under sentence for misdemeanors, who can afford to pay high prices for their apartments, any preference over debtors in respect of their rooms?—None whatever; we give them their chummage the same as others.

There is in fact no preference of a person committed for a misdemeanor over a debtor?—There has been none in my time.

For example, when Lord Cochrane and Mr. De Berenger were committed to the King's Bench prison, was a chummage given to them, or had they a distinct apartment given to each?—They had a chummage given to them as soon as I could; as to Lord Cochrane, as soon as I had a spare room vacant I put him into it; Mr. De Berenger had a chummage in one of the common rooms.

There is no chummage in regard to the state rooms?—Yes, only one can be upon a room, those eight rooms we never put a chum upon, so that a person who has a state room has it to himself.

If in a room appropriated to females, one purchases out the other, and chuses to have a man live in the room, is any notice taken of it?—I am obliged to overlook a great deal of that; there are a great many gentlemen who have their females there.

The case put is, where two women chum in a room, if one purchases out the other and takes in a male lodger, is any notice taken of that?—Yes, certainly; I do not allow that; we manage the women very well.

What is your principle of distributing the state rooms, and in what way do you assign them to prisoners differently from the common rooms?—That is entirely optional in me; but I have always, unless there has been somebody of rank, made a point of giving it to an old prisoner who has behaved well; I always give them the preference; there is a state room become vacant now; I shall of course have many applications, I give it to those who have behaved best and have been longest prisoners.

Supposing a prisoner of rank was to come there, and that all the state rooms were full, how would you manage?—There is no particular place whatever to put them into, but they would find plenty of prisoners ready to accommodate them.

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You would not think yourself justified in turning any one out of the state rooms?—No; I could not do it; there is a very comfortable coffee-room, and bedrooms there.

From whom is your knowledge of the behaviour of the prisoners derived?—All the officers under me make their report to me; if any person behaves ill, I generally know it the next morning.

You stated, that if a state room becomes vacant, you give it to the person who is best behaved, and has been there a good while; how do you inform yourself as to who are the best behaved?—I know them all pretty well; sometimes I am obliged to punish them on complaints.

Supposing a prisoner has any complaints to make, what channel of communication is there between him and you?—They generally write me a letter; there is hardly a week passes that there is not some assault committed, or something; then they write a letter to me, and I go and hear the complaint directly.

Do you make personal visits through the prison, for the purpose of hearing personal complaints?—My officers do; and I send for them up to hear their personal complaints, and hear in a regular way every thing that can be proved.

In fact, can any complaint come to you, by letter or otherwise, except some how or other, through the medium of your officers?—Yes; very often a prisoner writes, and sends a boy or girl to my house, the same as other letters; the greater number of them are left in that way.

Do you make any stated visits to the prison?—To the lobby of the prison I do; and if any complaint has been made, I go into the prison; I may have reasons sometimes for not going into the prison.

Are women and children allowed to go into the prison?—All women and children belonging to the prisoners; there is a bell goes round at half past nine at night, crying, "Women and children go out;" but there are a good many do not go out, I believe; and it would be hard to turn them out.

Is it the duty of the turnkeys to visit the rooms at any time?—Yes; regularly once a week every room in the place is visited by one of my officers.

On what day of the week?—Generally on a Monday.

How many times in a week do you think you go into the prison?—I sometimes do not go in for weeks, but every complaint that is made to me is always attended to; but there are private reasons which might be given for my not going in.

There is, in point of fact, no communication between the prisoners and you, except by letter or by your officers. Supposing a prisoner cannot write, and does not wish to send through your officers, how can he communicate?—Only by sending to my house, to beg to see me; or through my officers.

Do not you think that some of your officers may have prevented complaints coming to you?—I have heard of such a thing, but I never could find that it was the case; if I could find such a thing to have taken place, I should instantly have discharged the man who had done so.

Do not you think your occasional presence in the prison would give opportunities of personal communication with you, which are not otherwise obtained.—I do not know that it would; I think every complaint made to me comes before me regularly, and if any of my officers were to refuse to carry a complaint, I should turn them away immediately.

Have you any objection to state, what were those private reasons which prevent your going so often into the prison as you might be otherwise disposed to do?—The prison is an open prison, and I may have been obliged to punish people who might owe me a grudge, and that might render it unpleasant for me to go into the prison.

Do you know, whether your officers did on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday last, visit every room in the prison?—I have no doubt of it.

What reason have you for saying you have no doubt of it; have you a report that they did?—There is one man whose duty it is to go every Monday morning to collect the room rents, and he goes into every room.

Do you think he went to Lord Cochrane's room on Monday?—He went to the door, and found a paper, "not at home."

Is that the way he usually goes into every room?—The same as at chambers in the Temple; there is a paper, "not at home," when they do not wish to see any person, or when they are gone out.

Then he goes round to collect the rents, not with a view of ascertaining the

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persons of all the prisoners?—We should be thought impertinent, if we went to examine the rooms.

Is that feeling of delicacy set against the important duty you have to keep safe these prisoners?—No, I never had an escape of this sort before, and I do not know how this has happened; I hope not through any neglect.

Have you had a report since Monday, stating that every room has been inspected?—No.

You spoke just now of the fear of injury from the prisoners, have you ever met with that kind of treatment from the prisoners?—Oh, yes; there was once a riot in the place; if I had gone in, I am sure I should have been surrounded instantly; and one amongst so many I should have been very roughly handled I know; I went to the lower gate, and they surrounded me, and wished to have got me into the prison; and if they had, my life would have been gone, I have no doubt.

That state of riot and confusion cannot be a circumstance of common occurrence?—No, it is not; when any thing particular is going forward, and I am sent for, I always go, or when any repairs are wanting; I have no objection to set particular days to go; I do every thing in my power to make them happy and comfortable, and have done all my lifetime.

Have you any occasional musters of the prisoners?—No, never; the chum-master who collects the rents has the names of all, and they are generally seen; it is my duty to take care of my prisoners, or I am liable to the debts in case of their escaping.

Is there any written report made at any stated times to the marshal, as to proceedings within the prison?—There is no occasion for any, as I am there upon the spot.

Is there any time at which every prisoner is seen by some one of your officers?—I believe not a day passes without their being seen; it is necessary for the turnkeys to go round frequently to talk to the prisoners, and become acquainted with them, otherwise they might come in disguise and attempt to get out; the turnkeys make some excuse to talk to them, so as to know them all.

Is there any regular time at which the individual prisoners are seen by the turnkeys?—They make a point of seeing them as often as they can, but there is no regular time; it is their duty to see them as often as possible, but there is no day fixed for their seeing them.

There is no species of roll call?—No; that never has been customary, neither with my predecessors nor with myself.

Is there any book in which there is a record of punishments in the prison kept?—No, there is not; thank God, I have very seldom any occasion to punish.

You have stated, that one of the punishments is the depriving the prisoner of his chummage; what other punishment is inflicted?—Sometimes I put a person, in case of riotous proceedings, into the strong room, to save sending him to the New Gaol; but I always endeavour to avoid punishment whenever I possibly can.

There are two strong rooms?—There are.

Without a fire-place?—Yes.

Without windows?—There are iron bars, not glazed; but if a person is committed there, we always allow him to bring his bed with him; I never suffer him to be there without something to lie upon.

How long has any one been confined there, since you have been marshal?—When I first came to be marshal, there was a Count Harrington, who had been endeavouring to make his escape, and he was there a long while; but I never keep people there above a day or two; if it is a great offence, I send them to the New Gaol, but I send for them back, upon their making an apology; and if a man commits an assault, I put him there till he sends an apology.

Since you have been Marshal, no man has been there a month?—Never, excepting Count Harrington; he was there a long time; but that was above twenty years ago; he was a very dangerous man.

Then your other punishment is sending them to Horsemonger-lane prison?—Yes; to Horsemonger-lane prison; the other day I had a representation made to me by the prisoners, that three gentlemen who were prisoners were extremely irregular in their conduct, by rioting and making a great disturbance in the prison till four or five o'clock in the morning, and begging that I would prevent such disorder. I immediately heard the complaint, and committed the party to the

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the New Gaol for one month; they were there two or three days, and then sent an apology for their conduct, and a promise not to offend in like manner; having so done, I immediately sent for them back, and released them from the New Gaol.

What is the aspect of the two strong rooms?—I think it is a western aspect.

If two prisoners fought in the gaol, and no complaint was made to you by the prisoners, would any notice be taken of it?—It is always reported to me.

What punishment would be inflicted upon it?—I advise them, and they generally promise not to offend again; I punish as little as I can, but I prevent as much as possible.

Do you constantly reside there?—In the winter-time I reside there, and my family.

In summer-time where do you live?—At Putney Heath sometimes; but I attend the Court here; I am in town every day almost; I am seldom a week absent.

In case of complaints of very vicious and indecent conduct, on the part of the prisoners, do you take notice of such complaints?—Yes, always; I never suffer them to go unnoticed.

Are such complaints frequently made?—Sometimes I hear ten or twelve complaints a day on that subject; sometimes in the summer time I am two or three days absent; these things are all reported to me, and I always attend to all complaints that are made to me. I believe no complaints are stopped from me by any of my officers; I have never found it out, though it has been said so.

What punishment do you award for very indecent behaviour?—I have been seldom obliged to punish in that way; putting them in the strong room for a few hours has a good effect; and if they have good rooms depriving them of their chummage has a good effect.

Have you instances of gross extravagancies in the prison?—I do not think we have now; we have had great dinners there, and a great deal of money spent there formerly, particularly by one gentleman, who is dead.

Have you taken means to check that when it has arisen?—I have no controul unless there are riotous proceedings; if they choose expensive wines or dinners I do not see that I can interfere with that; any thing tending to riot or a breach of the peace I interfere with; but I think it would be exceeding my authority to interfere without there was riot.

Have you any reason to think very bad characters introduce themselves occasionally, for very bad purposes there; it is meant, for instance, prostitutes?—We never permit them to go, unless it is to see particular friends; we never admit common prostitutes; they must have the authority of some gentleman to go through; we do not admit them to walk there, as they do in the streets, and if a woman behaves improperly, who is sanctioned by a gentleman to come in, she is immediately locked out; if she gets drunk, or commits a riot, she is never permitted to go again.

In point of fact, no woman is admitted there unless under the immediate protection of some gentleman?—Women as well as men have free access to the prison, unless they behave ill.

She asks at the door for a particular person, and then she may take her chance afterwards?—No, the turnkeys know sometimes what room she is going to.

Does not a woman often come into the prison, and sleep in a room where several men chum and sleep?—That is unknown to me.

Do you disbelieve the fact?—I disbelieve the fact; that there are many women there under the protection of men, there is no doubt; I have often thought many more might be kept out than are, but I should be making many enemies in the inside, if I were to do it; but if the Committee think I should do it, I will certainly.

If a complaint were made to you, that a woman had been introduced into a room where a good many people chummed, and had slept there all night, what course would you take?—I should say, she shall never come in again.

Should you punish the man who brought her there?—I should remonstrate with him, but I do not think I should be justified in punishing him in any way.

Persons with spirits are not allowed to come?—No; but I am afraid a great deal is introduced, for I have been witness to women taking spirits in bladders between their legs, and others in their hats, and others we have found with tins going

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going round their bodies which would contain two quarts of gin; we prevent it when we can, but it is impossible entirely to prevent it.

Have you any means of dealing with such characters, except turning them out of the prison?—Certainly; I have taken many of them before a magistrate, and if they do not pay the penalty of 10 *l.* for carrying liquors into the prison, they are committed for three months; we proceed against them whenever we can; but there are some prisoners, particularly sailors, who require a little spirits; there was an old lieutenant some time ago who had been used to grog, he would have died without a little liquor, and I allowed him to have a pint in a week, or something like that; when the prisoners ask for it, that is allowed, and when a gentleman asks for it medicinally, I always allow it.

Do not you think the introduction of spirits would less frequently take place if there were greater vigilance in the officers of the prison to detect the fact, and bring the offender to punishment?—I have gone myself and searched the rooms at midnight for spirits, and sometimes we catch half a dozen of them; but we must go unawares.

Do you not know that spirituous liquors are openly sold at places in the prison?—Whenever we do know that, we deprive the persons of the room immediately, and take all the spirits that we find and destroy it before their faces, and commit them to the New Gaol.

They go by the name of whistling shops?—Yes, I have a list of ten of them now, which I had information of a few days ago.

With reference to wine, what regulations have you?—They may have as much wine as they please.

They may get as drunk as they like?—Yes; but they do it at their peril.

And any quantity of wine may be brought into the prison?—Yes, but we take care to see that it is wine.

If they do get as drunk, as they like do you punish them?—Yes, we do; whenever they get drunk and disturb their fellow prisoners, we always punish them for the riot.

Are men visitors allowed to stop all night?—Not if we know it.

When the bell rings are men supposed to go out as well as women?—Yes, I think so; men will stand a bad chance of getting a bed there all night; very few stay there, I believe, except a few who get drunk and stay there.

The Committee understand you to say, that nine or half past nine is the hour at which you turn visitors out; suppose a man wished to stop drinking till one o'clock, would he get out?—They turn their locks at ten o'clock, and not a soul is permitted to go in or out after that.

If any person was to be detected staying in the gaol the whole night, would you have the power of taking him before a magistrate and punishing him?—I do not know what I could punish him for, it would be no offence.

Is there any rule hung up, by which men are warned that they should go out when the doors are about to be shut?—At half past nine there is a man goes round with a bell, and cries out "strangers all out," and that is the notice for them, and they all go out; very seldom any body remains in.

If they did stay in should you have any means of detecting them?—The turnkeys would know it the next morning when they went out, but it seldom happens.

Does public gambling take place in the prison, E O tables and things of that sort?—No, I always abolish that; they play at cards a good deal, I believe there was one gentleman played a great deal, and made many suffer for it; I do not suffer any game except the racket ground, that is an exercise and amusement for the prisoners, I have overlooked that. Some years ago there was a boy introduced by the gentleman I allude to, who intended to make money of him as a racket player, but I soon locked him out, and he never was permitted to come again.

Have you many complaints made to you of gaming?—No; because they know that the consequence of a complaint to me would induce me to do the best to prevent it; if a stranger comes in and games at all, I make a point of keeping him out, for I am a great enemy to gaming myself, and will not allow it in any person over whom I have any controul.

Do you make a point of going to chapel yourself?—No, I always go to church.

Do

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Do any of the officers of the prison go to chapel?—Not many; the chapel is badly attended; the turnkey goes; one of the turnkeys is the clerk of the chapel.

Do you think it the duty of any officer to go there?—I do not.

Is the service regularly performed every Sunday?—The chaplain does it now by deputy; he has done the duty five-and-thirty years, and is now very old and cannot do the duty himself.

Does he send the same person always?—Not always; I have been obliged to remonstrate with him; he has sent persons who did not do the duty regularly, and I have sent to him, to say I must provide otherways.

Does he attend the sick there?—No; he has nothing to do but come there once of a Sunday, and during that time the doors are locked.

Are there prayers and a sermon?—Certainly.

You say the chapel is thinly attended; do the people behave decently there?—If I hear of any person behaving improperly there, I always punish them; they behave very decently indeed, I have no complaints.

With respect to visiting the sick, you are understood to say this clergyman did not do that?—I never heard of his being called on to do it, but when he was in health, I have no doubt he would have been ready to do it.

Who was he appointed by?—He was appointed by Mr. Thomas, who was Marshal some years ago.

In whom is the appointment?—The appointment is in the Marshal.

Do clergymen come in to visit the sick?—Yes; and if anybody was in a bad state of health, and wished for a clergyman, I should feel it my duty to get one.

Have you ever had any such application?—No.

Have you an hospital in the prison for the sick?—No.

Sabbati, 11° *die Martij*, 1815.

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

William Jones, Esq. again called in, and Examined.

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HAVE you brought with you a copy of your warrant of appointment?—I have.

[*The Witness delivered in the same.*]

Have you any other papers with you?—I have; I was asked particularly respecting the chummage. At Christmas 1809, complaints were made that the chum master had taken some fees. I thought it right immediately to appoint a person to give the chum tickets, and to put up this paper; which is now put up in different parts of the prison.

How long has it been up?—Ever since the date of it.

[*The Witness delivered in the paper.*]

I can assure the committee these regulations had a very good effect; these are pasted upon boards in the tap and the coffee-room.

Prior to that there were abuses?—It was in consequence of alleged abuses that I took this step, to put a stop to them as far as was in my power.

Is the King's Bench prison divided into common side and master's side?—There are some rooms which are called the poor side, or the common side.

How many rooms are there there?—There used to be a good many, but they are now inhabited in common; there are very few on the poor side; there used to be twenty or thirty prisoners on the common side, but I believe we have not above three at this time; it would be wrong, therefore, to keep fourteen or fifteen rooms for the common side.

What is the distinction between the rooms?—There is no distinction at all, but that they are in the back part of the prison, and looked upon as not so good rooms; they are the same in size.

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Of whom do those prisoners on the common side consist?—Those who swear before me that they are not worth 5*l.* and that they cannot subsist without the charities belonging to the common side of the prison.

You are preparing a list of the charities of the prison?—I am; we used to receive sixty pounds county money, but which were done away with at the time of the Act brought in by Mr. Thornton.

Are there no rooms properly called common side rooms?—There used to be fourteen or fifteen of them when there were a good many on the common side, but there is no difference between them and the other rooms, but that they are at the corner, and the back on the basement story, and not so good in point of situation as the others.

What impositions does this paper you have just delivered in, allude to?—By prisoners upon one another, not by my officers; indeed, they used to charge most immoderately when they had furnished the rooms; as high as two or three guineas a week, which was a great imposition, and I did all I could to put a stop to it; and I have, in a great measure, put a stop to it.

To what practice does the latter part of the rule beginning with the words, "many impositions," particularly apply?—To the practice of persons who have had their discharges on quitting the Bench making a traffic of their rooms without leave of the marshal, and imposing on those who are coming in; transferring them without the authority of a chum ticket, and without the authority of the marshal or any body else.

Mr. *Bernard Emanuel Brooshooft*, was called in, and Examined.

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

What is your situation in the King's Bench prison?—Clerk to Mr. Jones, the marshal.

You are not a public officer in the prison?—I have no appointment.

What is your principal occupation?—It is general. I act as clerk of the papers, and in the interior management of the prison deciding such cases as I think within my power to decide, and reporting such as are not.

The Committee are to understand you are in the nature of an inspector of the prison, and report to the marshal what you see and hear concerning it?—If the complaints are such as render it necessary; from my having been long in the situation, I am applied to five or six times in the course of a day; they come to me and state, that such a chum will not allow them to come into the room; or there is such a nuisance in the prison; or that they want to change their situation from one place to the other.

In case of complaint being made to you, how do you act?—I send to the parties who are complained of, as well as the party making the complaint, or perhaps he remains with me at the time.

Do the persons you send for always attend to that summons?—I never recollect above an instance or two in the course of twenty years being refused, and that was from a person generally conducting himself improperly, insolently; if they are ill I am always ready to attend them personally.

How do you proceed when you have the parties before you?—To hear the party state his complaint and the other rebut it, if he can.

What then?—They are of that description generally that I have just been mentioning; I have no power of punishing from any authority I have, nor are there any complaints of that nature heard by me.

You feel it your duty to report to the marshal the evidence you have taken yourself?—No, I do not; if, for instance, goods are withheld by a chum, or if they take the bedding when a man cannot pay at all, I generally decide, and the parties do what I recommend, either taking the word of the man, or if they will take my word; or if I think that the man's word should not be taken for it; I am more an arbitrator than a decider.

What do you do in case of their not abiding by your arbitration?—Report to Mr. Jones, if it is necessary; but the men generally go away and shake hands afterwards, and I hear no more of it; and I generally, if there is any dispute as to a matter of account, refer it to two gentlemen of their own acquaintance to inspect it, and they take my recommendation.

Do you think yourself warranted in interfering, in case of a riot or disturbance in the prison?—I have thought it my duty, and always have done it. I have taken a man by the collar, and brought him out, and I know the prisoners would let me do what I thought proper.

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Do you think yourself justified in confining a man in the strong room?—Under certain circumstances, in case of necessity.

Do you consider it your duty to go round the prison to see that all is well, and to hear complaints?—I consider it my duty, and do do so.

Have you any stated times of doing that?—None, when I am not in the prison I am generally about the prison, so as to be found in five minutes, unless I am over the water on business.

Do you either once, twice, or three times a week, feel it your duty to go round to each room in the prison to see that every thing is as it ought to be?—Certainly not; they would think me very troublesome; they would refuse me I should think.

Is there any time at which prisoners must necessarily be seen by you?—None.

You do go round occasionally?—Yes; for the purpose of seeing whether there is any nuisance, or they have any thing to complain of.

Half a year might elapse before you had visited all the rooms in the prison?—Certainly, there are some rooms in the prison, to which if I was to go, I dare say I should be asked, 'What business I had there?'

Is there any person whose duty it is to inspect all the rooms?—None; but the person who collects the rents has the opportunity of seeing the rooms, by going there on the Monday morning.

If he was paid the rent on the stairs, he would not go in?—No.

If he was paid the rent by another prisoner, he would not go to the room?—No.

So that if a prisoner chose to conceal it, he might be half a year out of the prison without your knowing it?—No, I should think not; the prisoners are so mixing together, that I generally hear what is passing.

Your knowledge of such escapes would be derived from the prisoners?—Certainly, or from our own servants; perhaps the knowledge might be derived from an officer, for they are generally looking about; if a man was missed for twenty-four hours in the daytime, and we did not know he was ill, it would be sure to be discovered.

Supposing a prisoner was reported to be ill, is there any person whose duty it is to see whether that is the fact?—No.

Might not a person be out of the prison for the space of a year without its being known to yourself or the marshal?—I cannot think it could be done without its coming to my knowledge.

In point of fact, has it occurred that a person has been a considerable time out of the prison without your knowing it?—I do not know of any instance of a person, who has been absent from the prison, having returned, and therefore I cannot conceive that it has.

Supposing the servant of Lord Cochrane had gone on carrying his meals to his room, is there any reason to suppose his escape would have been discovered for a fortnight or three weeks?—I think it would; if his Lordship had been reported ill, we should have enquired who was his medical man, and who was nursing him; and I should have rapped at his door, to desire to know how he was.

Supposing he had given orders to his servant, that he was not to be disturbed, might not he, with the connivance of his servant, have been out of the prison for six months without its being known?—It would create very great suspicion in the mind of any person, to suppose any man could be so long unseen by persons who inhabited the prison.

Lord Cochrane seems to have given very judicious orders to his servant, to carry on the appearance of his presence; supposing he had, in addition to that, had a surgeon in the intrigue, and he had directed that surgeon should visit him every day or every other day, might it not have gone on for six months?—It might, in my opinion; but that, I should hope, no surgeon would carry on such a scheme, and visit without his supposed patient being there.

Might not a person visit under the character of a surgeon, who was not one?—Certainly, that is possible.

You have no regular muster?—No; we must fetch them down, if they were to be mustered, for they would not come down.

Might not they be required to come to the door to be seen, or have notice that you must come into the room?—Certainly.

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How long has that paper been fixed up in the prison (paper dated 1st of January 1810)?—Ever since the date of it.

Explain to the Committee what is meant by the last part of it, as to many impositions?—Since the time I have been in the King's Bench prison, which is 21 years; I have known the rooms almost become a freehold, that is from error, in the early part of my being there; the marshal found out that the prisoners were selling their rooms from one to the other for sums of money; one prisoner imposing upon the other.

Independent of chum tickets?—Yes; and also when they had a chum ticket, making the arrangement, so as to have the person who was to succeed, take fixtures and other things at a price considerably beyond their value.

The person still remaining in the prison?—Yes; and also persons leaving the prison.

Do you mean, that the person leaving the room, made that the condition of the other person's coming in?—They did at that time; they exercised that as a common claim on the person coming in, that he should take such and such fixtures at such and such a price.

Do you mean that the person paying, was a person to whom a chum ticket had been given?—Yes.

They would not allow him to go into the room to which the chum ticket gave him access, without paying?—If a person was quitting a room, and he had fixtures of the value of 10 *l.* or 20 *l.* he would say to his chum, who was going to continue, you must pay me so and so, and would thus impose upon the person the paying for those things a price which I do not consider them as worth.

What means has the person going out of the prison of imposing upon the person remaining?—They have not now, but they had at that time, and it became almost a custom.

The marshal's only remedy was to punish the party paying?—He would punish both the party receiving and the party paying; there were persons who were poor, and found a difficulty in getting into the rooms, in consequence of that abuse; it came to Mr. Jones's ears, from persons who had that difficulty; and he said, I will not allow this to continue any longer, but I will make a bye rule to prevent it.

It is stated, that upon a prisoner's arrival in the prison, he is entitled to a chum ticket, which is always delivered to him immediately?—No; that is not the case immediately.

Have you known instances of persons who have not received their chum tickets immediately on their entrance into the prison?—Yes; it would be impossible, that we could, in the first place, find, on the emergency of the moment, a situation for them to go into that would probably be equal to their situation and rank in life; for instance, on the first day of term, we have twenty-five or thirty committed on one evening; to dispose of those persons immediately, in such a place as they would reside in the remainder of the time they staid, would be impossible; in the first place, they come without furniture; they have no means of their own, without money; that they seldom are without; and there are always persons in the prison who are open-mouthed, to meet with them, that they may get 2 *s.* 3 *s.* and 4 *s.* a night for the accommodation of bedding, fire and candle, and so forth.

Have not they given as much as 10 *s.* a night?—I believe they have, but that is very rare; another reason why they do not have their chum ticket immediately, is, that many would refuse the chum ticket, and say, I had rather wait till you can chum me better; I have been a decent tradesman, and so on.

Supposing a person had not a chum ticket delivered to him and had no money in his pocket, what would become of him?—That is a case I never knew; if such a case occurred, he must go into the common tap.

Do you mean to say, you never knew an instance of a person being committed to the King's Bench prison in such a state of distress, as not to be able to pay his fees, and to provide himself a bed?—Never, but that it was provided for him on a representation being made.

You state, that chum tickets are not delivered immediately on their coming into the prison?—Yes.

You state also, that persons buy a lodging of others?—Yes.

Can you then undertake to state, that persons have not suffered inconvenience from

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from the want of a bed when they first come in, and until a chum ticket was furnished?—I do not believe that a person has been permitted to suffer that inconvenience; there is a great deal of feeling among the prisoners themselves, and if a man had not a bed of his own, he would be provided for by the philanthropy of others, perhaps better than he could take care of himself; in all cases when I know it, I take care it shall be done through Mr. Jones's orders to me, by his personal relief.

If the ticket had not been delivered to him, and either you or Mr. Jones had not interfered on his behalf, he must for a lodging have depended entirely upon the humanity of some of the prisoners?—Yes, unless he went where many of them do, and it is free to them to go, into the public tap, and where they bring either their cot or their blanket, and stay there.

Supposing they have none?—That is possible.

How soon is the chum ticket delivered to them?—As soon as they ask for it; their state of ignorance does not continue for a moment; half of them come before they are committed; we see by the list of rooms what rooms are occupied by the smallest number of prisoners, and if the man applying is at all of the same rank with the person we are putting him with, or there is no family, or less family, we put the party there.

Does the list you are speaking of contain the names of those who are chummed together, or those who are living together by their own agreement?—Those who are chummed, and have a right to the room.

Upon what principle do you act, when you are deciding upon putting two chums into one room?—I know the parties, or judge from their appearance, and I say, that would do for Mr. such-a-one, he has no chum, he must go there.

Is it your object to place persons in the same situation in life, together in the same room?—Yes, as much as we can.

Not to place one who is in better circumstances with another in worse?—That depends upon whether they will be chummed in the room.

When a person comes into the prison, is his chum ticket respited till it is determined what room he shall go to?—We suspend it till he finds a person to whom he can go; we give him a ticket on his application.

Does that ticket entitle him generally, or to any particular room?—To a particular room; with Mr. Johnston or Mr. Thompson, in such a room.

How soon would he receive that ticket after his coming into the prison?—Directly, if he applies for it, unless when we say we can give you such a room; they say, I do not like that, I had rather wait till I can get a front room, or get such a one's room, as he is going out.

If a stranger comes there, does any person immediately inform him that he is entitled to it?—There is no direction of the kind, but they go into the inner lobby, and they are told, if you come up in the morning, you shall see the directions as to the Lords' Act, or the directions as to the chummage.

Is there no person whose duty it is to let the prisoner know where he is to go, or to whom he is to apply for a chum ticket, or is he turned loosely in, as you turn a horse into a pasture?—He is taken first into the coffee house, and there are waiters who generally know where he can go that night; I presume they become early acquainted with it, from the applications which are in almost all cases made.

The Committee is to understand there is no delay on the part of the chum master in giving the ticket the moment it is asked for?—None; but the reason I have assigned of the prisoner's wishing it delayed; I always sign tickets and leave them with the chum master to be ready.

Are those chum tickets given by the chum master or yourself?—Generally by him; but if there are any upper rooms which are considered as better, he would say, such and such persons are applying, which would you have chummed there; I should say directly, if we were not very much pressed, such a one is a gentleman, and will keep it clean, he had better have it.

You referred just now to the list of the rooms; you have a regular list kept, by which you can see which rooms have the smallest number?—We have.

With the names of the persons occupying these rooms?—Yes.

By persons occupying, you mean persons chummed there, and having a legal right there?—Yes.

It never happens that a prisoner has more than one room, does it?—Not unless

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unless other persons dispose of their right to that room, by receiving 3*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* a week to reside out of it; not by right.

It could happen, that if a person chose to purchase the use of two, three or more rooms, he might, under the rules of the prison?—The marshal presumes that the person chummed there is occupying the room; but I have known cases more than ten times in my life, where a person has paid his chum out, and occupied the rooms; but that is done by their own private agreement; persons in this way have occupied two rooms, but not by right of chummage.

Where do people sleep that have so parted with their chummage?—They generally sleep among persons who have lodgings; two in a bed; I have known three beds in a room, with two persons each.

Are there any places for lodging within the prison, besides those rooms into which people are chummed?—None; the persons having those rooms, think it a very great favour if they can get four or five lodgers.

Are there not rooms over the coffee-house?—Yes; but the persons chummed out could not go there to live; it is their poverty induces them to sell their right.

Do you impose any limit whatever upon the number that are resident in one room; if the greediness of one party, and the necessity of the other, should induce ten persons to get into a room together, would you suffer that to continue?—We consider that entirely at their own discretion.

No objection on the ground of the ill health which might be produced by such a practice, would induce you to interfere?—We consider that entirely with themselves.

How many persons have you known occupy a room?—Not having been in the room when they have been there, and not having any complaint made as to ill health, in consequence, I have never interfered; I never considered that there were more than six in a room.

Do any persons ever sleep in the tap?—Yes; they used to do more than they do now.

Do any persons sleep in the chapel?—No.

Nor dine in the chapel?—No, never; the chapel has been occupied by them, but then it was only pending the rebuilding of the prison, when it was set fire to a few years ago; we had no means of accommodating the prisoners who were unfortunately burnt out; but at no other time, within my knowledge, has the chapel been occupied by them.

Do you, in fact, enquire whether in those rooms that are occupied by six persons or more, there are any women and children?—I do not; the bell is rung every night at half past nine, with the additional words, "Strangers, women and children, all out;" those who stay in after that are voluntarily staying with their husbands and families.

Do you, in point of fact, know that it is the ordinary practice for women to stay in the rooms where other men besides their husbands are sleeping?—Yes.

So that there might be in one room four or five men and one or two women?—No, I do not think that; I have known those persons who have slept in a room where a man and woman has slept, or where a husband and wife has slept, but not the number now alluded to by the question.

Are the turnkeys and servants of the prison all under your direction?—They generally refer to me upon every thing, and the orders I give, in the name of Mr. Jones, are generally obeyed.

Supposing a prisoner to be chummed out of his room, and that the prisoner chummed into his room quits the prison, has the prisoner chummed out a right to return to his room?—He has a right to return, not only then, but at any time, for it is not considered as a legal transaction by the Marshal; he may annul it any moment he pleases.

Does the payment or non-payment of fees on commitment, entitle the prisoner to any claim to a chummage?—They are entitled to a chummage certainly, from the fees being paid which are usual at the entrance.

If they do not pay them, are they entitled?—There are many who do not pay, not half of them I believe, or two thirds, I am sure; but I never refused a chum ticket to any man living, who said he was poor, or if I knew it without his stating it.

Is a man considered entitled to a chum ticket till he has paid his commitment fee?—

fee?—Certainly, not entitled; the officer would say, you have not paid your fee on commitment; he would say, I am poor and cannot.

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In point of fact, you never refused a chum ticket to a man who could not pay his fees?—I never did; and I believe it never has been done; I should be ashamed to refuse it on such a ground.

Do you remit any of those fees on the score of poverty?—Constantly.

Are you able to furnish the Committee with any statement of the number of persons to whom you have remitted fees in the course of any one year?—Yes, I think I could do that in a very great measure; I could find how many have been discharged, and how many have paid fees, which would give the difference.

Do the turnkeys sleep in the prison?—One of them sleeps in the lobby adjoining, in the upper apartment.

Have they rooms given to them in the prison?—There is one room that the turnkeys have had possession of ever since I have known the King's Bench.

Of course he lets that room?—It is sometimes let, sometimes not; it is let to persons who wanted accommodation, and who had not it; there is no furniture, it is generally let to some gentleman.

No person is chummed into it?—No; there is only one room in that situation, except the lower room, which is the daily residence of the turnkeys, and not occupied by prisoners in the inner yard.

What is your rule as to the disposal of the state rooms?—It has been considered as under the private direction of the marshal, who shall occupy them.

There is no chummage upon them?—No.

What do they pay?—Two shillings and sixpence a week, but they do not all pay it.

Do persons in the state room at present pay no more?—They pay no more; they have the advantage of the others, because they have no chums.

Upon what principle are persons allowed to have the state rooms who do not pay, while there are others in the prison who would pay?—The marshal would give it to a gentleman, if he was recommended to him, even if he could not pay; there was application made for them, or used to be, when the prison was full of prisoners continuing for a time.

Are those rooms assigned to persons sentenced for misdemeanors?—No, there are none for them particularly; when I first knew the prison there were two staircases, numbers 14 and 15, which were considered as the rooms for persons sentenced by the Court; they are inferior rooms; and though Lord Cochrane and others have claimed a residence in the state house, that to which I refer was considered the only residence of persons committed for offences, and they were shut out from the others in the daytime and the night, and that part of the chapel which is cut off at the entrance, was that part where the persons committed for offences were detached from the prisoners for debt.

How long has the practice been changed?—I hardly know how many years, but it was quite in its decline when I first came to the place, the gates were open in the day, and so on.

You now place persons sent there for misdemeanors and debtors, indifferently?—Yes, we do.

Is the prison well lighted at night?—I have never found any deficiency in going about, except in the staircases, there of course it is dark.

There is no lamp at each staircase?—In some of them, where they pay for the hanging up the lamp, not otherwise.

Are there any lamps in the passages?—No, there are not.

There are sixteen passages in number?—Yes, besides the state house.

The marshal furnishes no lamps?—There are, I think, four lamps within the prison which are furnished by the marshal.

As to the cleaning of the prison, what is the common practice?—The scavengers are ordered to keep it in a proper state, and it is my business to see it shall be kept in a state of cleanliness, and I do it as far as I can.

How often do the scavengers clean the prison?—They go in sometimes twice or three times, sometimes only once a week; depending upon the quantity which has accumulated; the watchman sees the state of the prison in the morning, and if he finds it necessary, he orders them to go in.

Does the marshal contract for the dust and filth, and urine, and so on?—No, he does not; it is removed by the scavengers, and they get something for it, I believe.

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The marshal gets no profit by the sale of the urine and dust?—None; the scavengers do, but not the marshal.

Do the scavengers pay anything for the liberty of carrying it away?—They are his own servants; they are appointed by him.

How long before the Committee visited the gaol had the scavengers been there?—I do not know any day that they had not been there.

Was the state in which the Committee found the staircases to the various rooms, that state of cleanliness which you think sufficient?—It is generally the state in which I have unfortunately found them about this time of the year; in the warmer season I should see that there were no pots or pans, or filth at the door.

Then in winter weather you would be satisfied with the degree of cleanliness the Committee saw while there?—If I was to clean it myself, I am afraid in six hours it would be as bad again.

What arrangements are made for cleaning the stairs?—None; the scavengers go up occasionally.

Do they go up weekly?—No; not so often, I should think.

You were understood to say, that the scavengers cleaned the prison once or twice a week?—The surface of the prison; that is, removing dust and filth out of the places where it is put, and from the bins where it is deposited.

What do you mean by the surface of the prison?—The court-yards.

Is the back court-yard generally in the state in which the Committee found it?—It was wet weather, and then it is generally in the same state as the Committee saw it.

It is generally then in wet weather as filthy as the Committee found it?—It is, and I cannot prevent it.

Is there no regulation preventing persons throwing anything out of the window, or emptying anything out in that yard?—Yes; the marshal would order any person, if it was an out-doors person who did so, to be locked out; or if the person was a prisoner who did such a thing, he would remove him to a worse room.

Is it the duty of the scavenger to sweep the staircases?—Yes.

How long had that duty been performed before the Committee visited the prison?—I should think a week, or a fortnight; but I do not know; I never saw them at it more than ten times, during the time I have been there.

The execution of the scavenger's duty you do not consider it a part of your duty to superintend?—Never having had any complaint from the prisoners, I have never followed it up.

Whatever degree of filth they chuse to live in, you do not find yourself called upon to disturb?—Certainly, if I saw it; but I do not think it my duty to go into the place to see about it.

Have the scavengers written, or verbal orders?—Verbal orders.

You cannot say whether the staircases are cleaned once a week, once a fortnight, or once a month?—No.

Is there any officer whose immediate duty it is to report it to you?—No, there is not; the staircases are not generally so bad as the Committee saw them.

Can you give the Committee the distinction between the common side and the master's side?—Not at all; except that the poorer prisoners were supposed to live on that side.

Those receiving certain charities?—They certainly did, but they are mixed now indiscriminately; if they get five shillings or three shillings a week for being any where else, we permit it.

Is it a custom to chum them, as matter of charity, on richer persons, that they may get those gratuities?—If they ask for it, or the rooms they are in they pay nothing for. I believe there are only three on the common side of the prison, and how they are situate I do not know.

Is any part of the charities distributed to those not on the common side of the prison?—None, except the county allowance.

Does the charity amount to a considerable sum?—The quarterly donations and intermediate donations, which consist of beef and bread, and sometimes 5 *l.* sent by some noble lord or gentleman, may amount to perhaps 40 *l.* a year.

Do not all the charities and donations amount to more than that?—No; I believe not.

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How do you account for there being so few persons who receive those charities? —I conceive it arises from there not being persons in necessity.

They cannot receive the charities without swearing that they are not worth 5 *l.*? —Yes; that they cannot command 5 *l.*

Are they not obliged to hold the begging box, or to perform some ignominious office, to entitle them to receive that charity?—That is an arrangement among themselves; if they do not chuse to hold the begging box, it is their own loss, we do not insist upon it. The common side consists of major, clerk, and assistant; and if any man offends, and will not hold the box, he will be struck off the list for so long a time, and be deprived of the benefits.

Then those three officers divide the whole benefit?—There are only two in fact.

Who receives the money?—I receive the quarterly donations, and distribute them; the intermediate donations are delivered to themselves.

To whom do you deliver the money?—To the two; and they sign their names in a book.

By what authority are the two enabled to keep it entirely among themselves? —There are regulations of the court of King's Bench for the common side of the prison, under the seal of the court.

Do you believe that there is no other person in the King's Bench prison at this moment, besides those two persons, that are in such a state of poverty as to require the assistance of those charities?—I do not know the persons; but I do believe many persons have relinquished that, from the disagreeable necessity of standing with the begging box.

The Committee understand, that at present all the charities go to the major and assistant exclusively, for their own benefit?—Yes.

Do the major and assistant receive 20 *l.* a year each?—If they amount to so much, and more than that they get 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a week each from the county allowance, and the contents of the begging box.

But to obtain that they must swear they are not worth 5 *l.*?—Yes, that they cannot command that sum.

For any length of time have only those two persons distributed the charities? —Yes, I have known only one receive it, who was the major. I have given nine or ten pounds a piece in the quarterly donation.

Who chuses the major?—The number on the common side, if there should be so many as to elect him.

If there is only one, he is major of course?—Yes.

How long has the present major been in the prison?—I think six or seven years.

Do you think he is there from choice, or necessity?—I think from necessity; there is a commissioners warrant against him, for not answering satisfactorily to the Commissioners of Bankrupt.

What is his name?—Richard Ledwell.

Is there any fuel allowed to the prison?—Not to the different rooms.

There is a fire kept in the coffee-house and tap?—Three in the coffee-house, and three in the tap.

There is another tap called the brace?—Yes, there is another fire there.

Are those rooms open by right to all the prisoners?—Yes, to any one.

Whether they pay anything or not?—There would be nothing said, if they went in for hours together.

At day or night?—They are shut up at eleven o'clock.

All the prisoners are at liberty to go into the coffee-room?—Yes; they would not I dare say go in frequently without taking something, but they may do it. Gentlemen would not perhaps allow the lowest to come into the coffee-room often.

Is it part of the agreement of the persons holding the coffee-house and tap, that they shall keep fires?—It is expected of course, that there should be fires at such seasons of the year as require them.

Is it an agreement between the persons holding those houses and the marshal, or is it a voluntary act on their own part that they might dispense with if they thought fit?—The marshal expects it, though I do not know of any positive agreement.

It does not arise from any contract, as to the letting of the coffee-house and the tap, that there shall be fires?—No.

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The prisoners have the same right to go into the tap and the brace, as into the coffee-house?—Yes.

Where are the victuals of the prisoners dressed, who have not fires in their own rooms?—There are various persons, who live almost by cooking victuals, as well as a public kitchen.

Can you tell what prices are paid for dressing victuals?—No, I do not know; I have had no complaint of any charge which has been made, and therefore could not become acquainted with the prices paid.

What means have prisoners of recovering debts from each other, in the prison?—They have no legal mode, except by process; there is no summary mode of making them pay.

What mode have they?—Only by employing an attorney, commencing an action and lodging a detainer against them; if debts are contracted within the prison, the marshal interferes, though he cannot inforce the payment, if he feels it proper to do so.

Is there any allowance of bedding in the prison, to those who may want it?—None; except a casual relief of blankets and a rug, or things of that kind.

That is through the charity of the marshal?—Yes; and some monies have been given for the purpose of doing that occasionally; at the cold season of the year, a gentleman has given 5*l.* or so for such a purpose.

Do you consider yourself as obliged to distribute whatever is bought with that money, or the money itself, to those that you think want, or to the persons alone on the poor side?—To those who appear to be distressed, and who apply for it.

Not at all confining it to those who have sworn themselves worth only 5*l.*?—No; I generally consider them as best off.

In point of fact, is that demand often made for supplies of bedding and warm blankets?—Never, but when it was known there was a supply to be had; for instance, the last winter there has been no application of the kind.

Had you any the winter before?—The winter before it was known there was such a supply to be had on asking for, and then applications were made.

Do not you think there are at this moment in the prison, many persons by whom a warm blanket would be considered as a great treat?—No; I do not think there are persons in the prison who have not blankets or beds, or part of one.

Do not persons sleep in the tap on the benches?—Then they have cots or blankets of their own.

Do not they sleep in their clothes?—Yes, some of them do; but then they have blankets or rugs.

You know of no persons who have not blankets or rugs?—I know of none; I should attend to it, if I knew it.

Have you a general instruction from Mr. Jones, that in case there is any one in extreme want, such as the want of bedding, you should furnish the person so wanting, with any assistance in your power?—I have had a general direction from him not to withhold assistance from any person who was sick and in poverty; I have his direction to afford summary relief.

You consider Mr. Jones to furnish that out of his own pocket, and not from any fund for that purpose?—Out of his own pocket; I charge it in his account, and he always repays me.

You state that applications have been made for blankets, when it was known there were any for delivery; do you mean by that, that application would not be made for bedding and blankets, unless it was known there were some ready for delivery?—I should think they would not make application, for they could not expect it would be successful.

Is there any medical assistance furnished in the prison?—Not by any order or establishment; there are always medical men unfortunately in the place; six or seven or more.

You state, that you have orders from Mr. Jones to give assistance to the poor and the sick; what do you mean by the sick?—If a person could not afford medical aid, or could not get his prescriptions mixed up, that the assistance of a medical man should be procured, or if they had the assistance of a fellow prisoner to purchase medicines for them.

There is no allowance of medicines made to them?—No; Messrs. Saumarez and Dixon attend, by Mr. Jones's direction, when advice is wanted.

Have you ever known any case of a person suffering in illness in the prison, for

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for want of medical advice?—No; Mr. Jones or the officers have been ignorant of it, if it has been the case.

Have you ever known a person die in the prison, without medical advice?—No; I have heard it asserted, but never knew the fact.

When you heard it asserted, did you make enquiries to satisfy yourself as to the fact?—I never heard it asserted till the party was dead.

Did you then make enquiry of parties living, whether the thing was true or not?—There is always a coroner's jury sits on every person who dies in the King's Bench prison, and there are generally some prisoners very willing to take the unfair side of the question, and to bring forward any thing in the way of complaint; it would be whispered in a minute, and they would be sure to make it known to the coroner; and the persons present at the death, the nurses and so on, are always examined.

Are the coroner's inquests preserved?—Yes; they are preserved in the Crown Office, and the master of the Crown Office is the coroner, Mr. Lushington.

Have you any particular persons whose duty it is to attend the sick as nurses?—None.

Having stated that there is no regular medical attendance, and having, in another part of your evidence, stated that you do not regularly go into the different rooms of the prison, do you not conceive it might occur that a person might be ill, and might die, without any medical attendance having been provided for him?—A man must be extremely ill to be reduced to the state of having no person in the room with him, he must have frightened them all out; and if there is such a prisoner, all know it directly; I do not see how it could happen.

You conceive it would have been communicated to you, and you would have the means of providing medical attendance?—Yes; they are not left alone by their fellow prisoners unless they are very bad, and then they have previously had some person provided to be with them.

Is there any infirmary?—No.

What becomes of prisoners having contagious disorders?—I do not recollect a case of the kind, and therefore do not know what we should do in such cases.

Has there never been any infectious fever in the King's Bench?—I never knew any evil happen to others from a fever.

Are deaths common in the King's Bench?—They are few in number.

How many deaths have you had in the King's Bench the last year?—Perhaps four or five, but not certain how many.

Have you had any lingering illnesses in the prison?—There have been the cases of persons who came in very ill.

They were chummed with other prisoners when in that state?—I am not prepared to state whether they were so ill as to render it necessary they should have a room to themselves.

Do you recollect the circumstance of having an application to give a person a room to himself?—I do not recollect the case, except of an insane person; we have had several of them: if we thought they were so ill that it would be treating them improperly to put others with them, we should give them a room to themselves.

Have you any regulation in the prison for that purpose?—No.

Have you had lately any person die in the prison after an illness of any number of days; ten or twelve days, for instance?—I am not able to answer that question.

Has any coroner's inquest sat lately?—Upon all that have died coroner's inquests have sat.

How long ago was there a coroner's inquest?—I think within a month.

Is any list kept of the deaths in the prison?—No; we only write them off, and for particulars refer to the coroner's inquest.

What becomes of the body?—It is removed, generally, by the friends of the person.

If they have no friends, what is done?—The marshal buries it.

What is done with the body in the interval?—It remains there till it is buried.

Is the body left in the room?—Till the usual time of interment.

So that if there are two persons in the room, and those persons cannot remove themselves

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themselves out of it, they are there with the dead body?—If they chuse to go any where else, they have the liberty of going there.

If they have not the means of going any where else, they must remain?—I should remove them on application.

Would such persons have the right to have their chum ticket altered?—Yes; some persons might be timid in such a case.

But there might be danger also from remaining with the dead body after some disorders?—When persons have said to me, I wish the body was removed, I have said, The parties will fetch it as soon as they can, and have sent to them.

Have you known any body remain till it was offensive?—Yes; but then there was no person in the room; it was a person of some consequence; his friends lived at Bath; it was at the top of the building.

Have there been no instances of persons remaining for a day or two in the room where the dead body was?—When it has happened a person has died who had a chum, I do not know that he has been removed in consequence.

It might so happen that it might remain three or four days, and the chum not be removed?—It may; we do not turn them out.

You would feel yourself warranted in giving him a fresh chum ticket if he applied for it?—Yes, I think so, unless it was the same day, when there could be only the unpleasantness of having a dead body in the room.

Should you not, in case of such an illness as terminated in death, think it proper to remove the person out of the room?—It would depend upon where the room was; perhaps they would not like to be removed lest they should not get the room again.

Would you not think it proper for the advantage of the sick person, to remove his chum?—It might be proper perhaps to give them air, but it is not common to remove them from the room in case of the illness of the other.

The employment of Messrs. Saumarez and Dixon is an act of the humanity of the marshal?—Yes; in any thing like a desperate case they are sent for, and paid by the marshal.

Does the urine pass off in drains, or is it collected?—It is collected.

Why is it collected rather than permitted to pass off in drains?—I do not know; but I know the drains in that part of Saint George's Fields are extremely bad.

The drains are offensive?—Yes; the removal of this urine becomes offensive pending the time.

How long is it kept before it is removed?—I think they come twice a week for it.

Who removes it?—It is usually removed by a dyer.

What is the name of the dyer, and where does he reside?—I cannot state; for it is an arrangement between the scavenger and the dyer.

Does the dyer pay any consideration for the liberty of removing it?—He pays the scavenger so much a tub.

The urine is collected in casks, is it not?—Yes.

Are those casks after they have been emptied, ever washed out or cleansed?—There is no means of that sort.

Do you know what is the contract between the marshal and the scavengers?—The marshal, I think, pays them 12 *s.* 6 *d.* a week as a salary.

How many?—Three of them; and then they get the emolument arising from the filth and urine which they clear out.

The marshal pays this out of his own pocket?—Yes.

What arrangements are made with respect to the performance of Divine service in the chapel?—It is under the direction of the chaplain entirely; he is appointed by the Court on the marshal's recommendaiion, I believe, or by the marshal; Doctor Evans has been many years chaplain.

Is he an old man?—He is a very old gentleman.

Does he ever perform the duty himself?—He did till he was unable.

How long has that been?—I should think about twelve months, or more.

Did he perform it regularly up to that time?—No; alternately with another gentleman; he is rector of Saint Saviour's in the Borough, and has some duty at Saint Paul's or Westminster, as I have been informed.

Did the same person who officiated as his deputy, always attend?—No; there have been various persons attend; it was left to a gentleman of the name of Blanhern,

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Blanhern, I think, who provides gentlemen who are disengaged to officiate in different places where they are wanted, and we have not had the same person for a month together.

You are not sure any one Sunday that you shall have the same person who officiated the Sunday before?—No.

There is no other duty but Sunday duty?—No, unless on particular days in the year, such as Christmas-day and Good Friday, and so on, when the sacrament is administered.

Is there a sermon on Sunday?—Yes.

How many persons generally attend?—I was in the habit some years ago of attending that chapel, and then it was very thinly attended.

How many attended at that time?—There were not ten prisoners at that time.

Do any of the officers attend?—Not from necessity, they may from inclination.

Was the behaviour of the prisoners in the chapel orderly?—Yes.

You considered the attendance in the chapel as extremely small?—Yes, extremely small, in proportion to the number of prisoners.

Seldom exceeding fifty persons?—I should think seldom exceeding fifty.

Mr. Evans, or the persons officiating for him, does not think it part of his duty to attend any persons who are sick?—No; I never heard that they did.

Is there any arrangement in the prison for spiritual advice or assistance to persons who are sick?—I have known persons chuse to have spiritual advisers visit them, and when they have chosen to send for them they have come.

There is no arrangement for providing for that assistance?—No; Mr. Evans would come I am sure, if he knew of any persons being in that situation.

How many coffee-houses are there in the prison?—Only one which is called a coffee-house, and a tap and drinking room.

Are you acquainted with what arrangement there is between the master of the coffee-house and the marshal, with respect to rent?—No, I am not; that is a thing without my knowledge entirely.

You are in the same situation, as to the tap room and the brace?—As to the brace, I know the marshal has no arrangement.

Have you any controul over the prices at which liquor is sold?—I know they are sold at the same prices as they are sold out of doors; and every person is at liberty to bring any thing in, except spirits.

They may bring in wine?—Yes, wine and beer, and that sold within the prison is of the best quality I know.

With regard to the persons keeping shops in the prison, is there any payment for the liberty of keeping them?—Not a farthing; but the shilling a week for the room.

What is the nature of the establishment of the public kitchen?—They have the liberty of boiling and roasting there, and that from particular hours; I think from twelve to two, without any expense, except stuffing or the seasoning for a goose; after that hour, the cook charges a reasonable sum for those who chuse to dine late.

How is the fuel found?—There is twenty pounds a year allowed to her for coals, which does not nearly supply.

Given by whom?—Whether that is paid by the marshal or the person who keeps the tap, I cannot tell; but I think by the person who keeps the tap.

Is there any fee paid at the gate, at the entrance of any prisoner, towards furnishing the coals to that kitchen?—Yes, there is; it is a fee of nine-pence or a shilling, when it is paid; but in many instances it is not paid; when they do not pay the marshal his fees, they do not pay that.

Does that go towards furnishing the coals, or an advantage to the cook?—It is an advantage to her generally for attendance, and the expense of two or three persons in her kitchen whom she employs.

By whom is she placed in her situation?—By the marshal.

The marshal pays her no salary?—None; she gets the kitchen-stuff and those fees, and something for cooking.

The generality of the prisoners cook their victuals in their own apartments?—A great many of them.

Is the cook a prisoner?—No, she is not; we find it better to have a person we can get rid of at once, if necessary.

Some

Some dine at the coffee-house, and some at the taps?—Yes.

What class of persons generally use the kitchen?—They change; when they get into debt at one place, they go to another; and when they are able to pay off the debt, they come back again; the prisoners are dining from two o'clock to seven or eight; there are various cookings during that time.

Is there any thing in the prison to prevent a person having as costly a dinner as can be provided, and entertaining as many persons as his room will hold?—Nothing.

Are those entertainments often given?—No; they are talked of more than they exist in fact; I have known expensive dinners given principally by mercantile men, who have a good deal of property, and perhaps very large debts; and sometimes by persons of good connections.

In general persons live moderately there?—They do in general.

Do you know whether there are any profits to the marshal, from the sale of beer or wine?—Yes.

Do you know what those profits are?—I do not know exactly what they are.

How long is it since the death of any prisoner?—Indeed I am not prepared to answer that question; I can ascertain at the Crown Office.

Do you know how long within the course of the last six months, any corpse has remained?—Not having any objection stated as to its lying, I do not know.

Have you heard of a corpse being left in any particular room, and for how long?—I remember a person of the name of Audley stating, that there was a corpse in the room in which he was, that it was extremely disagreeable, and that he hoped it would be speedily removed; and I told him, I had no doubt it would be removed very soon.

How long was the corpse there after the complaint made to you?—I do not know, but I heard no more of it.

Did you make it your business to enquire on what day the man died, and how long the corpse had been in the room with that man?—I have no doubt I made the enquiry of him at the time.

Was there a coroner's inquest on that body?—Certainly.

Do you know, in point of fact, how long the body remained there?—I do not.

What steps did you take in consequence of the complaint so made?—It was not in the shape of a complaint, it was an application, it was in the lobby, and I desired the persons who were there to direct that the persons concerned in the funeral, should remove the body as speedily as possible.

Can you recollect how long it was before the body was removed, and the funeral took place?—I cannot.

To whom did you give the direction?—I cannot tell; I did not conceive at the time it was a complaint, and I did not particularly notice it.

Being informed that there was a dead body lying in the room where another prisoner was confined, you say you gave directions that his friends should be sent to?—Yes.

You cannot recollect to whom you gave your directions?—I can hardly say sent to, the friends are generally about them at those times.

Had this person who so died any friends about him at the time?—I do not recollect the circumstances sufficiently to state that fact.

You had no complaint of the state of health he was in?—No.

You were the proper person for Mr. Audley to give this information to, were you not?—It seemed to me, he spoke to me more upon it than complained of it.

In case of a prisoner dying in the prison, to whom is the information of his death first given?—To the turnkeys; they communicate to me, and I send to the Crown Office.

Was any information given to you by the turnkey of the death of this person, before Mr. Audley spoke to you?—There must have been, for he mentioned it to me by way of objection, the body lying there after the death.

Did the turnkey communicate to you the death of this man, and the body lying in the room previous to Mr. Audley having made this application to you to remove it?—I do not know that he did make it known to me; if any other clerk was in the office, he would take notice of the representation, and send off to the Crown Office, but then I should become acquainted with it; most probably it was communicated to me; but I cannot say.

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What steps should you immediately take, in case of a dead body being reported?—I should ask who he was, who his friends were, and see whether the undertaker came.

Then he would be left in that room generally until he was interred?—Yes; under the care of his friends.

Having no friends, under whose care would the corpse be?—When they have had no friends, the chums in the room have usually remained there; unless they have made any particular application.

Would there be any objection to removing the dead body immediately from the apartment in which it was into the strong room?—Not after the coroner has sat; I see none.

In point of fact, has that ever been done?—No.

But they have been left in the same room till their interment?—Yes.

Other prisoners have still slept in the same room?—I do not know that they have slept in the room; but they have not been chummed out by me.

In the event of a prisoner's dying on the Monday, when the chum-master has received the rent, if that prisoner was in a single room, might he not lie till the next Monday, without its being known?—In the case of a sudden death, a person might lie two or three days; but his not being seen would create suspicion in the opposite room, which would lead to inquiry and to search.

Do disturbances often take place in the prison?—Between prisoner and prisoner they do; frequently quarrelling.

Disturbances arising from intoxication?—I have had occasion to notice several times that it arose from intoxication.

If persons break out into acts of great violence, what is your mode of punishment?—Sometimes when they have been disturbing a particular individual or abusing him, they reconcile it among themselves, and the marshal is not acquainted with it.

If it was reported to the marshal what would be done?—He would commit them to the New Gaol under the rule of Court, for riotous and disorderly conduct.

Who would act in his absence?—I should act, if any case was reported to me.

If he was absent ten days, and any personal violence was offered by one prisoner to another, what should you do?—I should venture, in that case, to put him in the strong room, for a violent breach of the peace, openly proved, till he was guaranteed by some brother prisoner, or some explanation was made, with which the other was satisfied.

You would feel yourself warranted, by your own authority, to commit a person so offending, to the strong room?—Where it was so open and flagrant as that.

Have you known persons confined for any length of time in that strong room?—I have.

How long?—For months.

Of late years?—Yes; but then it has been for escapes, or attempts to escape; the strong room is without a fire-place, and without casement?

Did those persons ever complain of suffering from cold during their confinement?—No; I do not recollect any complaint upon that subject; we naturally knew it was cold, but they have had windows put up.

Have they beds with them?—Yes.

Always?—I have known prisoners in there with straw only.

For any length of time?—No; only when we have sent them in, instead of sending them to the New Gaol; when they go there, it is much greater punishment than our strong room is.

You would consider the confinement of a prisoner in Horsemonger-lane, to be a greater punishment than sending them to your strong room?—I should rather be in our strong room for six months, than there for six weeks.

Why?—Because they are so much more closely confined, there is a stone floor; the room is very small where they are locked up at night.

Are persons in your strong room allowed communication with the other prisoners?—No; but their friends may come to them at reasonable times, unless they are determined to be violent; but I never knew a case of that kind hardly, and always when they have been there for escape, they have had their friends.

Have you lately had persons confined in the strong room?—I think it is a long while since any one was there, except for a few hours.

How long was it since a person was confined there for months?—The last person who was confined there for a time, was of the name of Manning, he was released

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released on the payment of his debt, we only kept him there for safety; he ran away and got to Plymouth, and we had a warrant against him for forgery.

You have no record of the punishments?—None.

Have you any punishments, but deprivation of chummage and the strong room?—No.

In case of a violent disturbance, you would send the person to Horsemonger-lane?—No.

Have you ever seen the prison in such a state as to be unsafe to go in among the prisoners?—No; if all the rioters in London were to assemble there, I should think myself most safe in among them.

Have they ever been in so turbulent a state, that it would be unsafe to go in among them?—No; of late years they have been more orderly than they were when I first knew the prison; they set all law and regulation at defiance then.

Of late years you would not be afraid to go among them?—No; for I have been always familiar with them.

Would it be safe for the marshal to go among them?—I think as to his safety there would be no question; but if he mixed among them he would lose all authority; they would be swarming about him with this thing and the other thing, and that respect which is necessary to the maintenance of his authority when any complaints are brought before him, would all be at an end; two thirds of them would think themselves just as great as he was; and if the Committee had heard the conversation which passed yesterday between a gentleman who came up and the marshal, they would have thought so. There are so many men of that description constantly in the place, that if the marshal is at all familiar, there is an end to authority.

The marshal is a magistrate?—Yes; but he never acts but for the government of his prison.

Is drunkenness very common in the prison?—I do not think it is so common as it is among the same number of persons out of doors; and they get drunk in a body perhaps, and there is the more appearance of it.

Is it considered an offence, unless it breaks out in riot?—No.

Do you ever interfere with the coffee-house and the tap?—No; but they would not be suffered to hold them, if they encouraged drunkenness.

At what time do they shut up?—At eleven o'clock.

Between the hour of dinner and eleven o'clock they may be as drunk as possible, provided they are not riotous?—No; they would not sell them liquor, if they were very drunk; but they take quite enough to affect them.

Are you not informed, that there is a considerable quantity of gin in the constant habit of being sold in the prison?—There is, I am sure of it, and ever has since I have been there; and steps have been taken which have been very unpleasant to Mr. Jones.

How do you conceive that is conveyed into the prison?—Under petticoats, and in all manner of ways; we have caught them with things painted like cheeses, or women with pans under their petticoats, made to fit all round. I believe there is more mischief arises in that place from the sale of spirits, than from the use of wine and beer.

No spirits are allowed in the prison?—No; unless where the marshal sees it necessary; there are sometimes seafaring gentlemen who have been used to it, and are in the decline of life; or if the medical men think it necessary, from the gravel or other disorders, it is then permitted.

Have you seized a considerable quantity of gin lately in the prison?—Seldom in large quantities; very seldom exceeding a gallon or two gallons at a time.

Is there any notice taken of gambling?—None is permitted in the public places; it is in private, if it is at all.

Are persons admitted from without to play at tennis and fives, or is it confined to the prisoners?—The marshal wishes to confine it to the prisoners, but there are friends of the prisoners come in and join with them.

Are there any clubs kept in the prison, where people meet?—The only meeting I know of is a musical meeting.

Are friends admitted at all hours, from the morning to night?—Yes; from half-past eight in the morning from Michaelmas to Lady-day, and from eight in the morning from Lady day to Michaelmas, till ten o'clock at night.

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Supposing a prisoner has any complaint to make, through what channel does he address himself to the marshal?—Either to the marshal or to me.

By letter, or how?—If they see me they speak to me, or they write to Mr. Jones.

Are they sure of their letters being delivered?—Oh, certainly; no officer of the prison dare refuse to deliver their letters.

Letters are not opened?—If they are given to one of the officers, who are constantly on duty, they are left at the marshal's house in a minute afterwards, and if there is any complaint, the marshal will send me to enquire into it.

How many watchmen are in attendance in the night?—Two within the prison, and two without.

Do they go the rounds like other watchmen, every hour or half hour?—They ought to be walking about; first the one, and then the other.

Where do they walk outside?—Round the walls.

Lunæ, 13° *die Martij*, 1815.

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

William Jones, Esquire, again called in, and delivered the following Papers.

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> TABLE of Fees and Orders for the Government of the King's Bench Prison.—Return of the Amount of Fees received by the Marshal, Deputy Marshal, and Clerk of the Papers, for the last three years; together with an Account of the Number of Prisoners within the Walls and in the Rules.
>
> A List of the Benefactions and Charities received by Persons on the Common Side of the King's Bench Prison.
>
> Rules of Court relative to the King's Bench Prison in the 19 Geo. III. and 21 Geo. III.
>
> Form of Affidavit made by Prisoners, to entitle them to the Allowance, under the County Act of 53 George III. and the form of Oath under the said Act.

HAVE you any other Returns besides those you have given in?—There is one Return I omitted I find, on coming here. I was desired to make a return of the Crown Prisoners in the King's Bench; there are only ten, including Lord Cochrane, unfortunately now reduced to nine; we very seldom have exceeding three or four.

What proportion of the prisoners now in the King's Bench, do you suppose have been removed by Habeas Corpus?—I should think about one-third, but very often they remove themselves from the King's Bench to the Fleet, or from the Fleet to the King's Bench, so that a person in the course of his imprisonment may remove himself backwards and forwards two or three times.

May a person remove from the one to the other?—That depends upon his being charged with a debt; it depends upon the Court in which an action was brought against him, so that a person may have had three or four Habeas's in the course of his imprisonment.

Do you consider those actions to be collusive?—I am afraid they very often are; many come into the King's Bench with the view of living well there; and indeed I had one instance of a Frenchman being brought in for a very large sum of money. I have no doubt that he was brought in with a view to make an escape, and saddle me with the payment of his debts. There was a rope thrown over, (that was before the wall was raised and the chevaux de frise was placed upon it;) my watchman was on the alert, he heard a noise, and ran and found a rope thrown over the wall, with a lead at the end of it; it was brought to me. I confined the Frenchman in the strong room, and he soon after settled his actions and went away.

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Is it common for prisoners to remove themselves from one prison to the other at their choice?—It is impossible for me to say so actually, but I suspect it.

Chusing the King's Bench for the summer, and the Fleet for the winter?—It is impossible for me to say that; but I believe they do get friendly actions brought, and remove themselves.

How often is the prison whitewashed?—Whenever it is necessary; there is a visitation every Holy Thursday, by order of the Court of King's Bench. The Master of the Crown Office and the Crown Officers are directed to visit the Bench every Holy Thursday; the prisoners know of their coming there on that day, and they are ready always to receive any complaints that may be made against the marshal or any of his officers.

Of what persons does that visitation in general consist?—The Master of the Crown Office, formerly Mr. Templer, now Mr. Lushington, and whichever else of the officers he thinks proper to bring along with him.

Did he visit it last Holy Thursday?—Mr. Barlow and Mr. Jones, both of the Crown Office, did.

Not Mr. Lushington?—I am not sure whether Mr. Lushington was there or not; I was in Court on that day, and I think it prudent to give them a fair opportunity of hearing every thing, by not being present myself, lest it should be supposed I should have any end in view by being present.

Have those visitors ever pointed out to you any abuses, or anything that ought to be remedied?—They have, as visitors, recommended certain things; Mr. Templer, for instance, recommended the whitewashing of the prison some years ago, and I got it immediately done.

When was the prison last whitewashed?—I really forget when; I presented a petition sometime ago to the Treasury for repairs and improvements, and the Surveyor of the Office of Works was directed to make his report, which he did accordingly, and in consequence of that many improvements have been made, but still there are more to be done, and amongst the rest I think the whitewashing is absolutely necessary now.

Can you tell the Committee when the prison was last whitewashed?—I have got a minute of it at home.

Is it whitewashed at least once a year?—Oh no, it is not; it certainly does want whitewashing now.

Are mops and brooms found for the prisoners to keep it as tidy as they can?—Certainly not.

There is no allowance of mops and brooms?—Certainly not; I think if they were to be brought in, they would convert them into liquor or something else, nine times out of ten.

Whatever are used are provided by the prisoners themselves?—Yes, as it respects their own rooms, but they sweep their own rooms and leave the dirt in the passage, and for the very purpose of giving trouble, as soon as the scavengers have swept down the staircase they will sweep out their dirt immediately.

What directions have the scavengers?—To clean the prison regularly once a week.

Do you, in point of fact, know that those directions are obeyed?—I believe they are very regularly.

In what way are they to clean them, to scrub or wash them?—Only to sweep them down, not to wash them.

Are they understood to sweep them down with brooms, or only to remove the filth?—To remove the filth, and sweep them down with brooms.

They are never washed?—They are not.

They are stone principally?—Yes; I have been marshal for about twenty-four years, and I never knew any contagious illness in the place, and there is only one person ill now, and he is ill of a rheumatic complaint, and will be discharged, I suppose, in the course of a few days; I have allowed him all necessaries lately, and have interest enough to get him into an hospital.

What is his name?—Richards.

How often are the chimnies swept?—I really do not know as to the chimnies being swept; Christopher Morris can inform the Committee on that subject.

In what manner is the urine removed by the scavengers?—It is a perquisite that I believe my officers make of it; it is valuable, and I rather think they make money of it, but that I do not know. Christopher Morris will be able to inform

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inform the Committee upon that subject; I do not interfere with their profit on that.

What is the nature of your arrangement with the scavengers?—I pay them eleven shillings a week, and they have those perquisites.

Are there any conditions under which they remove the soil and urine, or are they left to do it at their discretion?—They are left to do their duty in the same way as any other servants. As to the urine, I am afraid they suffer it to remain too long.

Have they written directions, or verbal directions from you?—Verbal directions, the same as any other servants.

Have not the prisoners sometimes complained of the disagreeable smells arising from the urine and the heaps of dirt?—They have not to me; if they had made such complaints to me, I should have inquired into it. I think in the summer-time, when urine smells very much, it should be carried off; indeed, I should wish it should be carried away altogether.

You wish it was carried away by drains, rather than preserved for sale?—I think it would be a very good thing, for in the summer-time it will smell.

Have the inspectors of the prison, who visit on Holy Thursday, ever made any representation on that subject?—They have not; I really think it would be a very desirable thing to have it carried off entirely.

What arrangements are there for sweeping the chimnies?—I do not know any particular arrangement about that; but I believe there is very seldom any occasion.

Are any persons employed by you to sweep the chimnies?—No, there are not; and never were by any marshal that I have heard of.

In the new part of the prison the chimnies are all fire proof?—They are; three parts out of the four are fire proof.

In the old part of the prison, how do you imagine the chimnies are swept?—They are all proof, as far as the chimnies are concerned.

Has that been ascertained?—I have no doubt of it; there is a capital plan of the old prison at the Office of Works. I have no doubt the chimnies are all safe.

Is there any work carrying on now in the prison by the prisoners?—I believe many of them do work; a great many of them work at their different trades that can work; but we do not allow joiners to have any large piece of timber. Cabinet makers who can carry on their trade in their own rooms, without inconvenience to their chums, we permit to do so.

Can you give the Committee any idea how many persons now work at their different trades?—I cannot, but Morris can; it is his duty to see to these things.

Can you tell the Committee what is the average expense of living within the prison?—Some spend a good deal of money; those who drink wine, for instance; but I think a person may live as cheaply within the prison as he can out, and have full as good food and drink as he can any where out, and fully as cheap.

Can you form any idea of the average expense of each prisoner?—It is impossible for me to say; just the same as in any part of London, it depends upon their living; I think a poor person may live exceedingly well there for eighteen pence a day.

Eighteen-pence a day, you consider as the lowest?—No; I think a man may live for a shilling a day, but it depends upon his own choice; he may live, and may get money there, if he is industrious.

Can you tell the Committee, what you think is the highest expense of living there, as well as the lowest?—No man can live for less than a shilling a day in these times.

In what manner can a man get money in the King's Bench?—By cleaning shoes, brushing coats, and a great deal of money he gets by giving up his chummage, though it is against the rules; there is a positive rule against their selling their chummage.

What do you calculate the highest expense that any one now within the prison for debt is at?—We have no very expensive ones there now; I should think no one spends more than half a guinea a day; if they give dinners to their friends, they may spend more.

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What do you think is the highest sum?—I should not think any one spends more than half a guinea a day upon himself.

Are there several persons in the prison, in the habit of giving dinners to several friends two or three times a week?—I believe they dine with one another; that there are complimentary visits, and that they assist one another; not many, three or four together, perhaps.

The question referred to dinners given to persons not living in the prison?—I cannot answer to that; we have no very expensive prisoners now; we used formerly to have some who spent a good deal more; the prisoners have very often haunches of venison, and things sent them; then they have good dinners, and I should suppose, a good deal of wine.

Do you think the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a week allowed by the Lords Act a sufficient allowance?—I do not know of any poverty that is in the place at this time, because the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* a week, and what is made by the poor prisoners of their chummages, enables them to live well.

Without the chummage, or any other fund that may arise from themselves, you do not think the 3 *s.* 6 *d.* sufficient?—No, I do not; I think it ought to be a shilling a day at least.

Of course, you hold the same opinion, as to the allowance under Mr. Thornton's Act?—I do; and it would not be much for the counties; it is now £. 700. a-year by Mr. Thornton's Act, from all the different counties.

Might not a man live in health upon less than a shilling a day?—I should think he might, but not well.

What is the expense of suing out the sixpences under the Lords Act?—I really do not know; they employ an attorney, but many of them are brought out under the Lords Act by the secretary to the society for the discharge of persons imprisoned for small debts.

They sue for them?—Yes, in many cases.

How many officers of yours are there in the prison?—There is William Filewood, who has been a turnkey there from before I was there; Christopher Morris, a turnkey also; Durant, whom I appointed about five or six years ago; he was a prisoner originally; all these, indeed, have been prisoners; there are four criers, George Farmer, Nixon, and two others, and four watchmen; there is the office of clerk of the papers, which is now vacant.

There is also a clerk of the day-rules?—I am clerk of the day-rules myself.

Is there any other officer?—Deputy marshal; but he has nothing to do with the prison at all, but only with attendance upon the chief justice.

Are the criers prisoners?—No; they are not.

What is the salary, and what are the allowances to each turnkey?—I pay each turnkey a guinea a week.

What is the amount of fees to each turnkey, per annum?—I do not know.

Can you furnish it to the Committee?—No, I cannot; that is entirely out of my knowledge, what they have; my allowance is a guinea a week.

What other emoluments have the turnkeys, which you know of, besides a guinea a week?—They have fees; they have part of the urine money; and in short, a variety of different things, which I do not exactly know.

You would consider fees received by them to be an abuse, if they exceeded the amount allowed by the Court?—Certainly; and if they were represented to me, I should punish them.

Have the turnkeys rooms in the prison?—No; not one of them, to my knowledge, except Filewood, who has a room above the lobby.

They hold no rooms in the prison which they let to prisoners?—No; there is one slip which I believe somehow or other they have amongst them; it has been usual for them to have a little slip, which they have always had amongst them, making a little perquisite of it.

Where is that slip?—In the corner of the staircase.

What number?—I do not know the number of it

Does Filewood let the room he has?—No; he lives there.

Do they let the slip?—I believe they do; I found it necessary to have one of the turnkeys in the room above the lobby.

At what time do the turnkeys leave the prison in the evening, and at what time do they come in the morning?—They come always at eight in the morning; the prison doors are shut exactly as St. Paul's strikes ten, and nobody can go in and out after that.

What

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What is the size of the slip which is let; is it the same size as the other rooms?—Not quite so large, I think.

What are the emoluments of the criers?—That depends upon their own exertions; I pay them nothing; it depends upon voluntary gifts.

What fees are they allowed to receive?—None at all; it answers very well for the criers in case of the death of one of the turnkeys; they are acquainted with the prisoners, and expect to be nominated into the situation.

In what manner do you apprehend their emoluments to arise?—Entirely from voluntary gifts from persons coming into the prison to enquire for their friends: a crier will go and wait upon them to the room, and he gets three-pence, fourpence, or sixpence; he has no demand for a halfpenny.

Do they perform any other service, to your knowledge, for which they receive money?—None, to my knowledge; but they are very attentive, because, making themselves acquainted with the prisoners, they expect to succeed to the situation of a turnkey, which is a very good one.

What allowance do the watchmen receive?—From me they have half-a-guinea a week each; sometimes I have more or less on; I employ watchmen sometimes to watch them, unknown to any body belonging to the place.

Have they any other fees or emoluments, to your knowledge?—They have also, I believe, a portion of the urine money; they have more than the half-guinea per week; one of the watchmen is clerk of the chapel, for which he has a fee.

A payment from you?—No.

By whom is the clerk of the chapel paid?—By fees.

What is the fee received by the clerk of the chapel, and from whom does he receive it?—He receives it, I believe, from the prisoners.

By what authority?—I cannot say how that is, only that it has been customary for forty years, I understand.

Does he receive from those going into the chapel?—No; only on their going into the prison.

It is a fee paid by all the prisoners?—Yes.

That is a fee you consider as authorized by custom, though not by law?—I think so; it has been long before I became marshal.

What is the amount of that fee?—A shilling from each coming into the prison.

Have you ever been called upon to enforce the payment of that fee?—Never in my life; for it is never taken if a person will say he is poor, and cannot pay. It is my positive direction not to take a fee from a prisoner, on coming in or going out, if he cannot afford to pay it.

Is there one shilling for the watchmen generally, and one shilling for the clerk?—Yes, there is.

The fee to the watchmen is not mentioned in the rules and orders?—It is not.

Under what authority is that levied?—As a fee that has always been taken ever since it was a prison.

Should you think yourself justified in enforcing the payment of that fee?—No, certainly not.

The watchmen have each eleven shillings a week from you?—They have.

They have a shilling fee, as scavengers, from each prisoner coming in?—Yes, they have.

That is divided among them?—Yes.

And one of them has also the situation of clerk of the chapel, and a fee of a shilling from each prisoner?—Yes.

Have they any other fees, to your knowledge?—No.

Those fees you consider as not legally demandable, but fees established by custom?—Yes; so I understand.

Do the prisoners understand that?—I believe they do, perfectly.

What is the duty of the watchmen?—To go round within the walls of the prison. Before the walls were raised, I used to keep six watchmen constantly, but since the wall was raised I have kept but three or four; and an occasional watchman is sometimes sent in, which is pretty expensive.

Are they stationed within or without the wall?—Two within and two without.

Do they go their rounds at stated times?—They cry the hours as all other watchmen do; but one of them is very old, I have been very loth to turn him away.

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Is it within your knowledge, that they go once a quarter of an hour, half hour, or hour?—They ought to go; but I am afraid Duffel, who is becoming very old, does not; and I am looking out for another.

Do you think the others without side, and the other man within, go regularly round the walls?—I believe they do.

Are there any written instructions to those watchmen, or do they act entirely under verbal orders?—They act entirely under verbal orders.

Is there any other table of fees hung up in the prison, besides this you have delivered in?—None at all.

The table you have delivered in is hung up in the prison?—Yes, it is.

You unite the office of clerk of the day rules with that of marshal; what is the duty of clerk of the day rules?—Giving them a ticket, which is a kind of furlough for a day; it is only signing it.

Have the scavengers a shilling fee from every prisoner who enters?—I understand they have; but I do not know it of my own knowledge.

Has the number of prisoners increased very much of late years?—Very greatly; in consequence of the Insolvent Debtors Acts we have a great many more ins and outs than we used to have.

Has the number of officers in the prison increased in proportion?—I thought it necessary when I was appointed marshal, in consequence of the lowness of the wall, which was only thirty feet high, and with no chevaux de frize, to have six watchmen; I have, since the raising of the wall, done with four.

Has the number of turnkeys been increased?—That has always been the same.

Have you any other emoluments within the prison, besides those arising from fees and rent of rooms?—Certainly, I have very great emoluments from the tap.

What is the nature of the contract you make with the master of the coffee-house?—He pays me 40*l.* a quarter.

Is that in the nature of rent?—I do not know what to call it; I have an emolument of 40*l.* a quarter from him.

Is it for the rent of the house, or for profit on the sale of the wine, and so on?—Just the same as a person would take the rent of any coffee-house any where else.

You have no regular account of the quantity of beer drank; receiving a profit on each cask; or the quantity of wine drank, receiving a profit on each dozen?—I have nothing to do with any beer or wine drank at the coffee house, except the 40*l.* a quarter; I have no other emolument from the coffee house.

Do you consider the keeper of the coffee-house as responsible to you for the good conduct and good management of the house?—Indeed I do, and I believe he is as careful a man as ever lived; he lived in my service as servant for twelve years, before I placed him there; I was very sorry to part with him, but in consequence of his good conduct, I thought it right to put him into a situation where he might do something for himself.

How long has he been there?—I think about eleven or twelve years.

What is the nature of the arrangement you have made with the master of the tap?—I have a profit upon every butt of beer; it depends upon the price; I have the same profit that any tap-house keeper has, with this difference, that I make Bull, the keeper of the tap-house, an allowance for his trouble; the beer is sold the same there as in any pot-house in London.

Then, in point of fact, you are the seller of the beer at the tap, the master of the tap being only your servant?—Certainly.

Can you give the Committee any account of the average consumption of porter, ale, &c.?—I can tell pretty nearly my average profits; I make from 900*l.* to 950*l.* a year by the tap.

Can you furnish the Committee with any account of the average consumption?—I dare say I can.

Do you pay the master of the tap, according to the quantity that he sells?—I do.

Not according to a fixed salary?—No; according to the quantity he sells.

Is wine sold at the tap?—There is wine sold at the tap.

What is the profit upon that?—He pays me twenty shillings per week.

And

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And sells as much as he can?—Yes; I have no other profit upon the wine sold at the tap, nor upon any wine sold within the Bench.

What sorts of wine are sold?—I believe none but port and sherry; very little Madeira, I believe. I do not know whether they have not Madeira at the coffee-house; I never dined there in my life.

Any French wines?—I believe not; if I heard of any French wines going in, I should put a stop to it.

What is the annual amount of allowance you give the master of the tap?—It depends upon the quantity sold.

How much a butt?—I think he has about half-a-guinea a butt; at least half-a guinea a butt.

Have any complaints ever been made, either of the price or the quality of the beer sold at the tap?—No; far from it; when a butt, as will happen in the best brewery, turns out to be bad, it is always stopped up, and the brewer is sent to; and he takes it away, and sends good in return. I believe the King's Bench porter is looked upon as remarkably good; I never had any complaint.

Is there any particular hour when the tap is shut up at night, and after which they cannot have liquor?—My directions are, that they shall shut up at eleven o'clock; and, I believe, it is always done; if there is any irregularity after that, it is in their own rooms.

Is the coffee-house shut up at the same hour?—It is.

The tap is open for persons to sleep there after that?—Yes; but there is no beer or wine sold after eleven.

How early in the day may beer or wine be sold?—The same as at any other coffee-house, I believe.

What is the nature of your arrangement with the master of the brace?—I have no arrangement whatever with him; but he gets, I believe, for lighting his fire; he has a large room, a good many like to go and sit together there, and to drink their porter there; I believe he has a profit upon every pot, for fetching it from the tap.

No liquor is sold at the brace?—Not at all.

The master of the brace has merely an allowance for bringing the beer from the tap?—Nothing else.

Is what he receives a halfpenny?—I believe it is.

From what do his profits arise?—Merely from that.

The brace is a room in which people meet to drink their porter; and they pay a halfpenny for his trouble, and for fire and candle?—Yes; I have no emolument from it.

How does he become possessed of the room?—It is a room for the accommodation of the prisoners.

What constitutes a master of the brace?—I appoint him.

Has he any rooms in the prison that he lets to prisoners?—None at all; when the brace becomes vacant, and any prisoner that I think a regular man and deserving of the situation, I place him in it.

The inferior people drink their beer in the brace instead of the coffee-house or the tap?—That is all.

Is it a prisoner who now holds it?—I believe he is a prisoner.

As you cannot yourself know the character of the different prisoners, by whose recommendation do you act in the appointment of the master of the brace?—Very much by Mr. Brooshooft's recommendation, and I enquire of the turnkeys; I know the character of every prisoner very soon after he comes there.

There is a public kitchen?—Yes.

Have you any profits arising from that?—Not a halfpenny.

Is there no rent paid by the cook?—No.

In what way is she appointed?—In the same way as the master of the brace.

Is she often a prisoner?—The cook I had sometime ago was a prisoner.

Is the present a prisoner?—I believe she is not.

Do you regulate the profit that she takes for dressing and furnishing dinners? —No, I do not; I believe there is very little charged; she makes a good deal by the drippings I understand.

Can you give the Committee an idea what the situation of cook is worth?—

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It cannot be much, I am sure, I have no notion what it may be; forty or fifty pounds a year is the outside, I should think.

Is there any other kitchen?—No other kitchen.

Is the woman under any obligation to dress dinners at any time of the day for nothing?—Certainly, till between two and three o'clock, for nothing.

She boils?—Yes, she boils for nothing; after that people of the better sort, who have joints of meat, she dresses for them at two-pence or three-pence a joint; as soon as the time for the public boiling is over, she begins to dress for others, and the kitchen is at work till seven in the evening.

Are there any written instructions or regulations for the conduct of the kitchen, or does it rest on usage?—It rests on usage entirely, and has done ever since I have known it.

When she boils for the people, she gives them the meat again?—Yes.

Does she give them their broth also, if they require it?—If they ask for it I dare say she does, but I do not know that.

Have you any profits from the letting of the shops within the prison?—Not a halfpenny.

Upon what principle are they let?—For the accommodation of the prisoners themselves.

How are they let?—A person is chummed upon a room, and being chummed upon that room, he sets up a shop for his maintenance, and a great many get a good maintenance by it; but so far I have a power, if I find any one either sell by false weights, or sell an improper or unwholesome commodity, I immediately turn them out of their rooms.

There are some open shops attached to the walls, for butchers meat, for instance?—Yes.

Do they receive a permission from you?—Yes.

Do they pay any rent to you for it?—Not a halfpenny; on the contary, I encourage the competition, that they may have the best things at the lowest prices.

Do you ever examine the weights and the commodities sold in the prison?—Sometimes; indeed I have had a complaint that bread, for instance, has been short of weight, and I have immediately corrected the abuse; and those weights also are not only under my inspection, but I have always had the Jury from the Borough come into the prison, they come round two or three times a year, and inspect the weights.

Have the rooms used for shops more than one person chummed in them?—I suppose a person keeping a shop frequently pays his chum out.

If a person who is chummed out leaves the prison, another person should be appointed to the room?—Yes, always.

Do the persons, to the number of eighty, according to the list delivered in, who have rooms to themselves, comprehend those who occupy shops?—I believe they do; but Christopher Morris went round yesterday, making that distinction, and will be able to give a better answer than I can.

Prisoners run in debt occasionally, at the tap and the coffee-house?—Yes; and a great deal of money is lost.

Is there any means of enforcing those debts?—Not the least.

Are persons ever detained in prison for the debts so incurred?—Not at all.

They take care to take ready money?—I advise that they should, but they frequently do not.

Are not you a great loser by not taking ready money?—The keeper of the coffee-house, I believe, has great losses in consequence of that; I have no interest.

Do you not lose by the money for the porter not being taken immediately?—No, that remains with Bull, he is answerable to me for the money.

Do you allow permission for porter, or beer or ale, to be brought into the prison by any prisoners?—That is sometimes done, but I think it ought not, as long as they have good beer; there is a rule against it, my predecessor never would permit it.

What do you mean by a rule against it?—It is contrary to the custom of the place; nothing can be brought into the prison without the consent of the marshal, there is a rule to that effect.

Do you feel justified, and do you prohibit the entrance of beer and porter within the prison?—In large quantities I do; if any gentleman who happens to be

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be there, thinks there is good ale to be had in a neighbouring house, and chuses to send for three or four quarts of it, I never object to it.

Supposing half the prisoners chose to send out for their beer, should you prevent it?—I should think myself justified in preventing it in this way; the running in and out of the prison would give such trouble to the turnkeys; there are not less than 700 or 1,000 people going in and out of the prison in a day; and I am only astonished at the turnkeys distinguishing between such persons and the prisoners; it would be a great inconvenience to the turnkeys, and a great risk to me, to permit things to be carried backwards and forwards by persons employed.

In point of fact, may persons send out for beer or wine if they please?—For wine as much as they please, and for beer in moderate quantities.

Very little is sent for, of either wine or beer?—As to wine, I know nothing about it; but as to beer, we take care to have the very best; so that they have very little occasion to send out for it.

Have you been obliged to interfere to prevent a considerable number of prisoners sending out for beer?—Not five times these twenty years.

Do people stay drinking at the tap after eleven o'clock at night?—My positive orders are, not to admit anybody after eleven, and I believe they are obeyed.

Are steps taken to prevent drinking during the time of Divine service on Sunday?—Always; I have a report to me if anything improper is done during that time.

Are the coffee-houses shut up, and the tap, during Divine service?—Those are my orders.

And you believe they are obeyed?—I do.

Are the shops shut up during the remainder of the Sunday?—Certainly; I should deprive anybody of a shop who used it during Divine service.

Are the prisoners allowed to send out freely for meat and butter, and other provisions?—Freely, and in any quantity they please.

Do you suffer opium to be sold in the prison?—I have never heard of any being within the prison.

Are there a number of servants then to go in and out for the prisoners?—There are always scouts ready to go of all errands; children are always on the look out.

Are provisions to a considerable extent bought out of the prison?—I believe they are; I am very cautious in interfering with provisions in any other way, than that if the persons within introduce anything improper, I always interfere.

Having stated that one reason for your not permitting porter to be sent for, was the inconvenience to the turnkeys, would not the same inconvenience be experienced by permission being given to send for provisions?—I do not think it would be; for the provisions are brought in in the day-time in general, and there is not a great deal bought from without, persons have friends without, and they send provisions sometimes.

Is there any established butcher to the prison?—No.

Are the sports and amusements of the prison a source of emolument, and to whom?—Not to me a halfpenny.

To any body?—There is a man who has been at some expense in making the racket ground, and he receives so much a game.

Are the amusements of the prisoners, such as the skittles and racket, any source of emolument to the marshal or any other officer of the prison?—Not a halfpenny, to my knowledge.

Are they to any of the prisoners themselves?—I believe those who have possession of the racket-ground receive something, but I do not know.

How do they obtain possession of the racket-ground?—They have permission to take it.

Permission from whom?—Generally from me.

They have the marshal's permission to take possession of the grounds, and he receives no fee or reward?—No.

Do you give the permission to those who are poor?—Yes, and to those most deserving of it.

In

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In that instance you must act by the information of the turnkeys?—I generally know in a few days after they come in, what they are; I generally pick out the man who has been longest there, and who I think has been most deserving.

Then the prisoners at large have not the right of playing racket, unless they pay for it?—Whoever takes possession of the ground does as he pleases; it is usual for them to give something to the racket-master, but I do not think the racket-master can demand any thing; if two persons chuse to play there, I see no compulsion upon them to pay him.

Do you know in fact what is paid per game?—I do not; I never have been asked to compel payment for a halfpenny.

But you have reason to believe there is something paid?—Yes, but I do not know what.

Supposing a person was not inclined to pay, then he would not be permitted to play?—I do not know.

Has any person authority from you to appropriate any part of the prison to the racket-ground?—The racket-ground is there always, since the prison has been a prison I believe, and there has been a racket-master who receives some emolument for it; I did not chuse to knock it up when I came, nor have I ever heard complaints against the racket-master.

How long has the racket-master held that situation?—About six months.

He has been a prisoner that time?—I believe he has.

You appoint a racket-master, but the manner in which he acts you do not know?—I do not interfere at all; if a complaint was made against him of improper conduct, I should enquire into it; but no complaint being made, I do not know any thing about it.

The Committee understand the racket-ground is formed with ashes?—It is, in a great measure.

Does any emolument arise to any body from the skittle-ground?—Not without it is the skittle-master.

Is there any person who is considered as having a right to that ground?—There is a poor man who is at the expense of keeping it in repair, and I believe they give him something.

Is that what they call the bumblepuppy-ground?—There is a bumblepuppy ground also.

Have either the games of racket or skittle, been made the instruments of gambling in the prison?—Some years ago there was a young boy came there, who was a famous racket player; he was introduced by a gentleman of rank, with a view to gambling, but I ordered the boy to be locked out, and never suffered to come in again.

Has the racket-master or skittle-master, authority to settle disputes at play?—I do not know; I only permit the rackets and skittles for amusement, and if I thought persons made use of them for the sake of gaming, I should feel it my duty to put a stop to it.

Are there any written regulations in the prison, in regard to gaming?—No.

Have you any other rents, profits or emoluments, within the walls of the prison, than those you have stated?—There is one, the baker's rent.

What is that?—Three guineas a month.

Is there only one baker?—Only one baker, that is, for the bakehouse and every thing.

Have those emoluments from the tap and from the bakehouse increased or diminished; have they altered in any way since you have been marshal?—When I first became marshal there were a great many prisoners, but still they have increased of late years, on account of these Insolvent Acts.

Then though your emoluments have increased on account of the number of prisoners of late, the charge has been the same?—Exactly the same as by my predecessors, I knew them both; there is no difference since their time; there has been no difference except in what I have been stating.

The rents are the same?—Yes.

Are the Committee to understand that your emoluments arising within the prison, are derived solely from the fees, from the rents of the rooms that you let, from the rent of the coffee-house, from the tap, and from the bakehouse?—Yes; I do not recollect any other.

You

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You spoke of one baker, would any other prisoner be allowed to bake in the prison?—Not to bake in the prison; but any baker would be allowed to bring bread there; there is no other bakehouse in the prison.

Many prisoners purchase their bread without the prison?—Yes, wherever they please, and all kinds of their provisions.

Is there any infirmary or any place for the reception of lunatics within the prison?—There is not; I think it would be a desirable thing for the Judges of the Court to be authorized, on the production of proper affidavits, to order any person in a deranged state of mind to be removed from the King's Bench to a proper place, for the reception of such unfortunate persons, as there is no place belonging to the King's Bench, except the two strong rooms in which the marshal can confine them, so as to secure them for their own safety as well as for the safety of the other prisoners; I have every reason to believe that instances have occurred of persons being sent to, and detained in the King's Bench prison by their own friends, in order to get rid of them.

Have you ever had many insane persons within the walls of the prison?—Not many; the instances have been very few, certainly; but there have been some.

In a violent state of derangement?—Yes; and I have been obliged to pay men to take care of them.

Have you any in that state now?—Not any that are in a dangerous way; I do not mind if they are quiet and behave properly; but when they are violent, they may hurt not only themselves but others.

Have you any that are really deranged?—I think there is one, whom I should not chuse to mention.

Is the clerk of the papers paid any thing by you?—Not a halfpenny; he depends on his fees.

Then he has no emoluments arising within the prison?—Not a halfpenny, except his discharge fee.

He is nominated by you?—Yes, he is my clerk; he is entirely my clerk, my books and papers are kept by him; he is my clerk, and I am answerable for all his acts.

Is there a fee taken upon any corpse being received from the prison?—No fee; but if the friends of the party dying come to take the body away, the coroner goes over to the King's Bench to take an inquisition, for no prisoner can be buried before the coroner's warrant is granted; I cannot suffer him to go out of my custody till then, and the coroner is entitled to a guinea; now if the friends are able to pay the coroner, well and good, he gets his guinea: if it is a poor person, he, at my request, gives up his fee of a guinea, and I bury the prisoner at my expense.

But if the friends bury him, they pay the guinea?—Yes.

If the coroner has not a guinea, you bury them at your own expense?—Yes; if they cannot afford to pay the coroner, they cannot afford to bury him.

Where is he buried in that case?—Always in one of the neighbouring churches. Mr. Thornton, who is a very respectable undertaker, generally buries them in Newington Church-yard.

What is a coroner's jury formed of in the prison?—They are summoned of the most respectable prisoners; they must be prisoners.

The turnkeys cannot be on the jury?—I think not; the Act of Parliament directs what the jury shall be, and they must be prisoners; the coroner issues his warrant to summon a jury the same as another coroner would, and the witnesses are examined in the same way; and I should not be justified in burying any prisoner without a warrant from the coroner.

Where does the body remain after the death?—It is removed as soon as possible; the very instant a person dies we send to the Crown Office, and as soon as the inquest has been taken, Mr. Thornton has orders to take the body away, or the friends of the party; I believe there has not been an instance of any dead body remaining above a day or two; but the person chummed upon that room generally goes out, and the body lies by itself.

If the body should remain in the prison, is there any arrangement by which the person in the room might be provided with another lodging, or the body taken to another room?—There is no room to which the body can be taken, but we always provide for the person in the room; the persons like to stay in the room to keep their chummage, but a temporary arrangement we always make upon the instant.

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In point of fact, what is the greatest length of time, within your knowledge, that a summons has been sent to a coroner, before he has attended?—Never exceeding one day, I think.

What becomes of the prisoner's effects after death?—The friends always take them away entirely.

Suppose he has no friends?—It is seldom those who have no friends leave any thing.

Is there any arrangement by which his effects would be preserved?—No doubt; some time ago there was a man died leaving something, and it was taken care of till his friends arrived.

Notice is immediately given to you of the death of a prisoner?—Yes.

And you send somebody to preserve his property from pillage?—Certainly; every possible care is taken of his property, and we generally learn from him, while he is ill, where his friends are.

Might not the dead body, after the coroner has sat upon it, be removed to the strong room?—Certainly; and I should feel it my duty, rather than any prisoner should be incommoded, to remove it to the strong room.

Is that never done in fact?—We have had no occasion to do it; the coroner is so attentive and ready to come, we have never had occasion to do it.

How long have you known a body lie after the coroner has been there, before it was interred?—Not long; it is taken away as soon as possible.

What is the greatest length of time you have known a body lie in a room?—Not more than a day or two; I desire they shall clear the place as soon as possible; but the friends may desire to have it kept another day; but I have no knowledge of its being kept more.

You never have had any complaint upon it?—Never.

In fact, you make use of the agency of Mr. Brooshooft to manage the prison in a great degree?—No; I live entirely there in the winter season, and in the summer, having a numerous family of very young children, I am not there constantly.

But Brooshooft is constantly in the prison, and in your employment?—Yes, constantly; and if he wants to go out a week or two, I am there myself.

Has he any fees or emoluments within the prison, to your knowledge?—Not a halfpenny.

He receives a salary from you?—He receives a salary from me.

Are any of the appointments that have been mentioned, purchased, or any of the offices of turnkeys?—Not one of them; there is no purchase of an appointment of any kind.

What salary do you pay Mr. Brooshooft?—There is a private arrangement between Mr. Brooshooft and me; I make it worth his while, in different ways; and I should apprehend, any thing out of the prison in that way, would hardly be required from me.

Has Mr. Brooshooft an opportunity of disposing of any of these situations?—No; he cannot do any thing without my concurrence; my disbursements are certainly very great, and my risk is very great; I pay 300*l.* a year to clerks.

How many clerks do you keep?—Three.

Who are they?—Mr. Brooshooft, Mr. Hewitt, and Mr. Parish.

You pay those three clerks 300*l.* a year?—Very nearly, more or less, it depends on circumstances; exclusive of those clerks, I am very often obliged to employ occasional clerks, particularly when making returns for Acts of insolvency, and preparing my lists to be sworn to; sometimes I have three or four clerks for a month together, besides those three.

Has Mr. Brooshooft any emoluments connected with the care of the prison, besides his salary?—Not at all; he is not entitled to take a halfpenny in any way whatever, nor does he take it.

His emoluments do not depend upon yours at all?—No, not in the least; I may look upon the clerks and extra clerks, upon an average, as costing me 350*l.* a year; I think full that.

What is the boundary of the rules?—I have a rule of Court particularly specifying it, which I had better bring to the Committee.

Have you any notion of the area contained within the rules?—I think it is about three miles in circumference, or say about two miles and a half.

It is ascertained by a rule of Court?—It is.

Who

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Who are entitled to have the liberty of the rules?—Those who give me security to my satisfaction, by way of indemnity for the debt with which they are charged.

To the full amount?—To the full amount; it is my duty to take care of myself.

That only relates to your own security?—Certainly.

If a person did not give you security, you might let him have the rules?—Certainly; but he would be liable to escape.

What is the proportion of the prisoners within the rules, to the whole number?—There are at present about 220 in the rules, but many have been there a number of years; but the proportion, I should think, would be about one-fourth.

Upon what terms do they purchase the rules?—They purchase the rules upon these terms: If a man takes the rules for 100*l.* my predecessors always took ten guineas for the first 100*l.* but I take eight guineas for the first 100*l.*; that includes the stamp, the preparing of the bond, and the securities; that is a reason why it is more for 100*l.* than for a larger sum; we charge eight guineas for the first 100*l.* and four guineas for every 100*l.* afterwards; but if the sum is large and the security good, I take sometimes half that, and sometimes less.

It is an option with you, whether you should allow a prisoner the rules?—Entirely so.

If the amount of the debt is under 100*l.* what do you charge?—We take sometimes six and sometimes five guineas; and very often only three guineas; and indeed I often give the rules without any expense whatever; there are many now in the rules that have not paid any thing for them, but that is optional in me entirely.

The money you obtain for that, is entirely your own?—Entirely; they pay me for insurance.

Is there any future demand made, or does that last as long as they chuse to continue there?—It lasts as long as they continue there.

Can you give the Committee the annual amount?—Pretty nearly so.

You keep a regular account?—Not a very regular account, for I give the rules to many; but I can give my average expenditure.

Can you give in the amount of the last five years, distinguishing each year?—I do not think I can; I can give it pretty nearly.

Do you own any houses within the rules?—Not one of any sort.

Do any of the other officers?—No, not one.

Do you receive any profit from any houses of that description?—No; not a halfpenny from any one.

Are the houses within the rules under your jurisdiction?—No; I have nothing to do with them.

What power have you over any prisoner in the rules?—Just the same, in case of improper conduct, as over any prisoner within the walls; if a person behaves improperly within the rules, I have a right to call him to account as my prisoner, the same as any prisoner within the walls.

Are public houses within the rules considered as out of them?—If a ruler enters a public house, it is looked on as an escape.

Is there a rule of Court, that if a prisoner is seen at a public house within the rules, it shall be deemed an escape?—Yes; and I am liable to an action for it.

Then of course the persons within the rules frequent the public house within the prison?—No; if they have friends within the prison, they go there, not otherwise.

If they frequent any public houses at all, it must be those within the prison; because they are prohibited entering those that are without?—Certainly.

Can you state to the Committee, what is the greatest sum you have ever received at one time from one person for the rules?—I do not remember ever to have received more than 300*l.* I remember one person I received that sum from.

The practice of allowing prisoners the rules, who are under sentence of the Court, has entirely ceased?—Entirely; for I never will suffer one to go again; I found an inconvenience attending it, and I never will suffer another to go.

Are there not day-rules?—Yes, certainly.

How many in each term?—Now one every day in term, the same as in the Fleet.

How does a prisoner procure the day-rules?—By sending a petition to the clerk of the rules in Court; and every one in that petition has a day-rule.

Does

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Does that come from the prisoners?—Yes.

Then every individual prisoner presents a petition to the Court?—Yes.

Is that every term?—No, every morning; a prisoner sends his name every night, that it may be put in the next morning.

Is not that done by applying at your office?—If a prisoner wishes to have a day-rule, he sends to my office to have his name inserted in the petition; and the petition is made in their names, and presented to the Court at its opening.

Is any thing paid for that?—Yes, 4*s.* 2*d.* which is divided.

How?—In the manner stated in the printed table of fees.

Are persons within the prison in the habit of receiving these day-rules, as well as those who live within the rules?—They are; but those within the prison are obliged to get the tipstaff to be answerable to me for their return.

Does the tipstaff give you any security?—Yes.

To what amount?—Upon their appointment to the office, they generally give me security in the penalty of 1,200*l.*

It is a general security?—Yes, a general security for the due performance of their office.

Is your consent necessary before a person in the prison can obtain a day-rule? —I rely on the tipstaffs, that they would not take any person out that they would not be answerable for, so that I have no difficulty in trusting them as to that; I give consent to all those whose names are in the petition.

A prisoner cannot claim it as a matter of right?—Certainly not.

A prisoner cannot apply to the court of King's Bench, without your consent? —No, certainly not; I very often refuse day-rules to persons who are charged with large sums of money; I only give it to those charged with small sums; but if a man who is charged with more than 600*l.* then a special application must be made to me, and I must have security before I let him out.

Do you ever refuse consent to a day-rule to those who live within the rules of the prison?—Never; there is no occasion at all for it.

Is the tipstaff to apply to you for a day-rule for a prisoner, or does the prisoner make his terms with the tipstaff first?—He makes his terms with the tipstaff first.

Then the tipstaff gets a fee from him, for that purpose?—He does.

Do you take any fee?—No.

Are there many persons living in the rules, who have been there for years?— I believe there are.

Can you state the longest period any person has been in the rules?—I think I can.

Are there no other fees on the procuring these day-rules?—No, none at all.

Are there any places of worship in the rules?—There is the Magdalen and St. George's church, and several other places of worship.

Is the rent of houses within the rules high?—I do not think the number of 200 persons within such a large space, would have any effect upon the rents in the rules; there are a few houses about the Obelisk, Melina-place, and that way, where, I suppose, they make a little more.

Are there many debtors within the rules, who live in much luxury and extravagance?—Not now; I think we have more change of prisoners now than ever we had, in consequence of the Insolvent Act.

Mr. Brooshooft, as Clerk of the Enquiries, is entitled to a fee of half-a-guinea, for enquiring into the sufficiency of the bail offered for the rules?—Yes.

By what authority, or under whose regulation?—It is a fee, time out of mind, I take it, paid by any person purchasing the rules, for the rules are purchased; they agree with me for them.

Has Mr. Brooshooft any other emolument?—No other that I know of, he has none of my profits on the rules.

The Committee are to understand his appointment to consist partly of a salary, and partly from this half-guinea fee you have just described?—Yes.

Has he any other profits from you?—He has no other profits from me.

Do you know of any other profits to which he is entitled, from any other person?—No.

Have you any other profit, besides what arises from these rules, without the prison?—No.

What check is there to prevent any prisoner within the rules, from going out and returning again, as often as he pleases?—We send round often, and know always

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always where they are, and we know generally every week, whether any body is gone or not; and their creditors would be glad to have me for their paymaster, if they were gone.

What is the consequence of their going away?—I should be answerable for their debt.

Do you pay the taxes for the prison?—Yes, every thing.

Are window taxes paid?—Yes, I pay every thing; my taxes come to above 500*l.* a year.

And repairs?—All great repairs I petition Government for; but I pay for a great many repairs.

Do all the profits and emoluments derived from your situation belong solely to yourself; and do you account for no part of them to any other person?—They belong wholly to myself, and no other person is entitled to or has ever received one shilling from me, since I have been marshal. I have not paid one halfpenny to any body on any account whatever; nor did I give any consideration whatever to any person whatever, directly or indirectly, for my appointment.

Christopher Morris was called in, and Examined.

Christopher Morris.

Are you one of the turnkeys of the King's Bench prison?—Yes.

You are also what is termed a chummage master?—I have the management of it; Mr. Brooshooft is the chum master, and I have the management under him.

State the process by which a prisoner obtains a chum ticket?—When a prisoner comes in, he asks for a chum ticket, and I give it him.

Suppose a prisoner does not know he is entitled to it?—The prisoners all know it. When they come in at night we take them to the coffee-house, and provide them with a ticket the next day; sometimes they wait a week or a fortnight before they ask for it.

But if they ask for it, it is given immediately?—Yes.

Every prisoner gets his ticket the moment he demands it?—Yes.

Is there any fee paid for it?—No.

Is there any other fee before he gets it?—He pays his 10 *s.* 2 *d.* commitment fee at going in.

If he does not pay that fee, does he get his chummage?—Yes; if he is poor, and cannot pay.

You never refuse a chum ticket, in point of fact?—Never.

How long have you had the management of the delivery of the chum tickets?—Four years.

And during that time you have never refused the delivery of a chum ticket?—Never.

How do you determine what course to pursue, in giving a chum ticket?—If there is a gentleman in a room, and he has a person who is poor with him, the gentleman asks for him to be chummed out, for which he pays 5*s.* a week.

By what rule do you assign a person to a room?—I judge from their persons whether they would do to be put together; if a man says, I should like such a person with me, I put them together, because they cannot disagree.

If a person likes to go into one particular room, and the person in that room will take him, you put him into that room?—Yes.

Do you never put a person into a room, without the consent of the person into whose room you put him?—Certainly; if I went to ask every person I should have nothing else to do. We take them by rotation, the person who has been in longest is chummed upon last, and the person who comes in last is the first person who has another chummed upon him.

A chum is put upon the prisoners according to the length of time they have been in the gaol?—Yes.

So that the man who has been the oldest prisoner would be the last to have a chum sent into his room?—Yes.

Is a prisoner ever chummed into a room in which there are already two persons, while a single person remains in any one room?—No.

There are some people who keep shops?—Yes,

Are persons chummed into those rooms as well as into the others?—Certainly.

About what sum is paid to purchase out a chum?—Five shillings a week.

Christopher Morris.

Never more?—Never more, that I know of; I never suffer it, if I know it. I tell the marshal, and he stops it.

You do not chum them out?—I chum them on a gentleman, and if he does not like them, he pays them out; if he likes to take them he does, if not, he pays them out.

You chum the poor people on those who you think will pay them out?—I believe it is so.

If a person whom you think to be poor asks for a chum ticket, what is your rule of chumming him?—We give it him for any room in the prison.

In what manner do you decide as to the room?—If he is a poor man and wishes to be bought out, we chum him on a gentleman who will buy him out; if he wishes to remain, we put him with a person who will keep him; I give him a chum ticket upon the youngest prisoner in one or other of those classes.

What becomes of the prisoners that are bought out of their rooms?—They lodge in other rooms.

What is the largest number you have lodging in one room now?—I cannot tell justly.

What is the cheapest lodging they can get?—I do not know what they give for their lodging; there are people ready to catch them as soon as they go in, to lodge them.

How many people are there now in the prison without beds?—Half of them are without beds of their own, I should suppose; those who are paid out go to lodgings, and two of them sleep together.

How many people are there in the prison who do not sleep in a bed at night?—I do not know.

Are there many?—None that I know of at all.

Do you mean to say there are none of them sleep in a blanket at the tap?—Some of them sleep on mattresses in the tap-room, on the top of the tables.

You think there is no one in the prison now, who has not a bed of some sort to sleep on?—They have a bed to sleep on, though not their own.

Is there any regulation or restriction upon the number of persons chummed out, assembling together and living together in any one room?—No.

So that if a person were chummed out, and wanted a lodging in any other person's room, of course he could have it, whatever number there might be before in that room?—Yes.

How many have you ever known inhabit one room?—Three; I never knew more than three chummed in a room.

How many have you known to be sleeping in a room?—Five or six.

Have you never known ten?—No.

Eight?—There may have been as many as that, but they are all up when I go round of a morning.

If a person had been chummed out and received this five shillings, would he be at liberty at any time to go back to the room from which he was chummed out?—Certainly, at the end of the week he may go back, and if he applies to be chummed upon another person, I give him another ticket.

Supposing a lady had a room to herself, and had a poor person chummed upon her, and supposing the poor person to say, I chuse to come in, would she be put in?—Certainly.

You say you are not able to tell how many persons inhabit a room, because when you go round they are all up?—I go round every Monday to gather the rents.

You are the person who gathers the rents?—Yes.

If you receive the rents outside of the door, you do not think it necessary to go into the room?—It does not always happen that I go in; I go in once a fortnight, generally.

Are the Committee to understand, that the persons who are bought out, from the moment they are bought out are no longer considered as under your direction, as to where they are to go, or where they are to assemble?—Certainly; they can go where they like; they may go one night to one room, and another night to another.

If

Christopher Morris.

If any number of them are collected together in any one room after they are so bought out, there is no attention paid to that by you or any other person in the prison?—We never interfere with them.

How often is the prison cleaned; how often do the scavengers attend to do their duty?—The marshal orders them to attend every morning.

Do they attend regularly?—Certainly.

How often do they go up the different staircases?—I think it is three times a week.

Do you mean, that in the course of the week every staircase is cleansed three times a week?—They always go up of a Saturday particularly, and sweep them down from top to bottom.

As chum master, you must know whether this fact is true; has any individual, to your knowledge, ever paid to the amount of half a guinea a week for a bed?—I do not know what they pay for their beds, I do not enquire into it; they may have done it, and not told me.

Did you ever know an instance of persons paying for a bed and a share of the room half a guinea?—No, I never did.

Did you ever know an instance, that where two persons were chummed together, one paid the other half a guinea a week for the bed?—No.

If two persons are chummed in a room together, can one admit a third person without the consent of the other?—Certainly not.

There is no instance where two out of three chums can admit a fourth, without the leave of the other?—Certainly not.

Do you allow the families of prisoners to remain with them in the prison?—Their families are with them in many instances.

Are they allowed to pass the night there?—Yes; they have been since I came there.

Is a man's wife allowed to stay with him all night, without the consent of the other chums?—No; but they generally indulge one another.

Do you live within the walls of the prison?—No, in the lobby; we have a room inside, which is the room of the three turnkeys.

What room is it?—No. 7 in No. 6.

Is that what is called the slip?—Yes.

How is that disposed of?—We furnish it, and let it.

How is it let?—We let it sometimes for a guinea, and sometimes for a guinea and a half a week; but we often lose half the money.

Who lives in it now?—Major Worg.

What does he pay?—A guinea and a half we let it for; he pays us 2 *l.* but it is elegantly furnished.

Have you any other rooms?—No.

Does any other of the turnkeys hold rooms in the prison, or any of the criers?—George Frodsham, one of the criers, has a slip, that is No. 3 in No. 10.

What does he let that for?—A pound or a guinea a week.

Does Marsh, one of the criers, hold a room?—Marsh has a slip opposite.

What number is that?—No. 4 in No. 10.

Does a person of the name of Nixon hold a room?—Yes; but he is a prisoner, he has a chum on him.

Does not he let his room?—He takes in lodgers.

Is there a person of the name of Kent, who has a room?—Yes; he is a prisoner, and pays his chum.

Is there a person of the name of Gore, who is an assistant tipstaff?—He is not a tipstaff, he is a prisoner.

Are you sure he is a prisoner?—I am certain of it.

Does he reside within the prison?—No, he does not.

Has he a room?—Yes; but there are two people in the room, which the Committee call his room.

Has Gore any interest in it now?—No.

Are you sure he does not let it for a guinea a week?—Not to my knowledge.

Are the other two prisoners in that room?—Yes; they sleep in it.

Where does Gore reside?—In Belvidere Place, but he comes in sometimes to sleep; he is within the rules.

What

Christopher Morris.

What business has he with a room in the prison, if he lives within the rules?—He has not got the room.

You say he comes in occasionally to sleep there?—He used to do so.

Has Clarke the baker any room?—Yes, the baker's shop, and a little slip to put the flour in.

Does he let that?—That I cannot tell; I can easily know.

Are there any persons in the prison who have no chums?—Only in the state-house, and the gentlemen committed by the Court; De Berenger and Sandom, and those?

De Berenger is not in a state room?—No.

Then how is it he has no chum?—I never knew a prisoner have a chum who was committed by the Court.

Then, however full the prison may be, persons committed for misdemeanors have no chum upon them?—They have been chummed, but this new Act coming alters it.

Is it the rule, that no persons committed for misdemeanors have chums put upon them?—They have been chummed at times.

Is there any rule that prevents it?—I do not know that there is.

Is it ever done?—Yes.

When?—Frequently.

Have you not in general now three in a room?—No.

Have you not two in most rooms?—Yes, two in every room, except those four or five.

Is there any room in which you have more than two?—Yes.

You have more than two in some rooms?—We have more than two in the large rooms of all.

Why have De Berenger, and some of those gentlemen, no persons chummed on them?—From the length of time they have been there, I suppose.

How long is it since any one has been chummed upon them?—They have been there nine months.

When you make out the chum ticket, do you make it out for such room as you think fit, or consult any other person?—I consult Brooshooft.

And he is the person to determine?—No; not unless there is something particular to consult him upon.

How long is it since there was a person chummed in Mr. De Berenger's room?—Three months.

Why have you never chummed a person in his room, instead of putting three in another room?—Being committed by the Court, was the reason.

Why did you do it three months ago; and why do not you do it now?—I have no reason at all for it; I think they have a right to have chums.

Then why have you not given them one?—I certainly will.

In December last there were near 600 persons within the walls of the prison; was there then a chum in the rooms of De Berenger and Sandom?—Certainly, there were in Sandom's room; there was certainly, because he did not obtain his room till after that; and in De Berenger's room there certainly was.

You mean to have the Committee understand distinctly, that there is no fee or gratuity paid to you, or any one else, within your knowledge, for the distribution of chum tickets?—Certainly, not any fee whatever, I have no right to take it; the marshal would discharge me if I did.

How often is the urine taken away by the scavengers?—Three times a week, I believe; it is according to the number of prisoners.

How is the money arising from the urine distributed?—I do not know.

Does it go entirely to the scavengers?—I do not know.

No part of it goes to the turnkeys?—No.

What does the marshal give you in the nature of wages?—A guinea a week.

What other emoluments have you besides the guinea a week?—There is a room inside.

What other emolument?—Nothing else.

You have no fee or emolument besides the guinea a week, and the room you have mentioned?—Certainly not.

Have you any fees of any kind upon admission or discharge, or any thing?—No.

Do you mean to say you have nothing but that guinea a week?—We have something

something out of the fees in going in and coming out; we have half-a-crown on each prisoner coming in and going out.

How much at coming, and how much going out?—Three-pence a-piece coming in, and seven-pence upon each prisoner going out; it is about ten-pence coming and going out.

Upon coming in, the prisoner pays half-a-crown?—No.

What does he pay on coming in?—The marshal's fees on coming in.

Do you receive any portion of those fees?—No; the marshal has 6*s.* 2*d.* and when the prisoner comes out, we have half-a-crown.

Every prisoner going out, pays half-a-crown, and that is divided between you?—Yes.

Suppose the prisoner cannot pay the half-crown, what happens?—Certainly we let him go.

Is that the only fee you have?—The only fee.

Are there any other emoluments arising to you in any way from the prison?—No, none whatever.

Martis, 14° *die Martij,* 1815.

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

WHO lives in the room No. 8 in staircase 10?—There is a lady living in it; I forget the chum's name; the chum is paid out I believe.

Was the chum a woman or a man?—We never chum women on men.

Who are the chums on No. 8 in 10?—There are two; Gore is one; I forget the name of the other.

Have you made out a list of the rooms with the chums in them?—No, I have not.

You have the original list?—I have a book I go round with.

[The Witness fetched the Book.]

Turn to No. 8 in 10?—Gore and Knowles.

Who is Knowles?—A poor man.

Have they chum tickets for that room?—Yes.

What becomes of the chum ticket?—The prisoner has it.

It is his title to the room?—Yes.

Does he give it to the person to whom he lets his room?—No, he keeps it.

Does Gore hold the chum ticket now?—I suppose he does.

You said yesterday, he had not any interest in the room now?—No; Knowles is the person who is the master of the room now.

Then how comes Gore's name to be in the room?—His name is on, because it is not discharged from the books.

How long has he ceased to reside within the prison?—Some time.

How long?—Some months, I dare say.

He lives in Belvidere Place?—Yes.

How long is it since he slept in the prison?—A long time; three or four months, I dare say.

You consider him a prisoner?—He is a prisoner not discharged.

Is he entitled to his Supersedeas?—I conceive he is.

Who lives in the room now?—I do not know; but I could easily see who lives in it; there is a lady in the room I know, but I have not enquired; if they choose to go out of the rooms, that is no matter of ours; I dare say Knowles sleeps out.

If a lady occupies a room, who receives the rent?—It is lately the lady came there; I have not been up lately.

By whom would the rent be received?—It is received by me; if I do not get it one week I do another.

How lately did you receive it?—Seven or eight weeks ago; I used to have it of Gore.

Christopher Morris.

You look to Gore to pay you the rent?—Yes.

Does Gore receive the rent from the person occupying the room?—That I cannot say; I never saw the money paid.

Does it appear by this book that any rent has been paid by Gore?—Yes.

There has been no rent paid for six months, has there?—Not for two months; there were Gore and Mortram; it is sixteen or seventeen weeks since it was paid, I see.

You consider Gore as responsible for that rent?—I cannot say; as he is out, I should consider Knowles as responsible.

Do you mean to say, you should consider Gore as responsible or not for that room?—I should suppose he may be.

Do you not believe that at this moment Knowles, or the lady that is living in it, are the under-tenants to Gore?—I should think they are, but I never saw them pay any money.

Of whom do you receive your one shilling a week?—I received the last from Gore.

Is that since Gore left the prison?—That is about the time he went out, I think.

Of whom do you mean to demand the shilling for the last sixteen weeks?—Gore, I should suppose, but if he does not pay me Knowles must.

They have both chum tickets for that room?—Yes.

What is your remedy if they both refuse?—I should make them pay, certainly, unless they were poor and could not pay.

How came you to tell us distinctly yesterday, on the question being asked, "Has Gore any interest in it now," that he had none, when now to-day you tell us that he has?—I was confused at the time; I meant that he did not sleep in it now.

If you meant that he should have no further interest in it, why did not you withdraw the chum ticket?—They take away their chum tickets with them; I never ask them for them.

What is your rule if they do not pay their rent?—The marshal forgives them if they cannot pay it.

Do you allow them to let their rooms to others if they will not pay?—I cannot help it.

If a man does not pay you the shilling for the room, and you actually know that he under-lets his room, do you not turn him out?—They are turned out at times, but it is very seldom that it happens.

Do you mean to say, the people pay the shilling or not, as they please?—They are obliged to pay if they have got it; but if not, it is forgiven them.

They underlet at a profit?—That I cannot say.

If people chuse to buy out their chums, they give them about 5*s.* a week?—Yes.

Who pays the 5*s.* a week?—The man who is in the room, and pays the 5*s.* a week, pays the one shilling.

Is it a customary thing for a person chummed in the prison to leave it and occupy a house or part of a house within the rules, and then to re-let the room in which he is chummed within the walls of the prison?—No; it is not allowed by any means, if the marshal knows it.

That is the case with regard to Gore, is it not?—He assists the tipstaff.

That is the case with regard to Gore?—Yes.

Have you not acted contrary to your duty in allowing it?—I am not master.

Why have you allowed Gore to keep this room, contrary to the rule?—I suppose Mr. Gibbons asked Mr. Brooshooft.

Did you ever mention this to Mr. Brooshooft?—We have talked it over.

It is within your own knowledge, that Mr. Brooshooft is acquainted with Gore living in Belvidere-place, and letting the room in this prison?—Mr. Brooshooft knows he lives out; but whether he knows of his letting the room I do not know.

What have you talked over with Mr. Brooshooft?—That another person should be chummed on the room.

Is

Christopher Morris.

Is it within your knowledge that Mr. Brooshooft is acquainted with the circumstance of Gore living out of the prison, and re-letting the room within it?—I cannot say as to letting the room; but he knows he lives out of the prison.

What do you mean that you have talked over?—His going out to assist Gibbons.

Who is Gibbons?—Lord Ellenborough's tipstaff.

Then he is out of the rules, is he not?—No, I believe not.

What does he do to assist Gibbons?—Run of errands for him.

Does he not go out of the rules then?—If he does, his action is supersedable; I know nothing of that.

Have you ever mentioned the circumstance of which you say, you know yourself that Gore lives out of the prison, and re-lets a room within it, to any person in authority above you?—No.

Does Mr. Brooshooft know that Gore has any interest in the room then?—I do not know that Gore has, in consequence of another man being chummed on it.

What did you mean by saying, you were not the master?—That I could not let any man go out.

What did you talk over with Brooshooft?—About his going out of the prison with Gibbons.

And letting the room he had in the prison?—No, not about letting the room.

You are understood to say, there are two persons chummed to this room?—Yes.

Had Gore the room without a chum?—Never; unless when there were twenty or thirty went out together last summer.

Had Gore that room without a chum?—No, I believe never.

You say you talked to Mr. Brooshooft about putting another chum into the room, when Gore went out of prison; had he not a chum before he went out of prison?—Yes.

Then how could you talk to Mr. Brooshooft about his having a chum, he having one already; there is no other chum but one in that room?—No.

Your conversation with Mr. Brooshooft could not allude to his having any other chum, for he has no other; there are not three in that room?—No.

What did your conversation allude to?—His chum, that is chummed upon him, is paid out; I cannot say how they managed.

What did your conversation with Mr. Brooshooft allude to?—Mr. Brooshooft said, Gore must leave the room; but how it is I do not know.

Mr. Brooshooft told you Gore must leave the room?—Yes.

Then why did he not?—He did leave it; I dare say he has furniture in it; the room was empty last week.

You have told us, that to the best of your belief Gore has an interest in that room at present?—I believe he has.

You have added, that you believe Gore lets that room, though you have never seen any money paid; now, when Mr. Brooshooft said, Gore must leave the room, how came you to let him continue to have an interest in that room?—He did leave the room, but his things were left by paying the chums out.

He let the room personally?—Yes.

Did you not understand from Mr. Brooshooft, that he was to leave the room entirely, and lose all interest in that room?—Certainly; he should have lost his chummage upon it.

Then why did he not?—I do not know; there was another prisoner chummed on it.

Had not there been another person chummed upon the room before?—Yes.

Have you asked for rent of any person for that room, for the last ten weeks?—No, I have not.

Why have you not?—I shall have my money, I have no doubt.

Of whom?—Of Gore.

What reason have you to suppose Gore will pay you for that room, for the last

Christopher Morris. ten weeks?—I dare say the room is furnished by him and his chum, and that they are both interested in it.

[*The Witness was cautioned to be more careful in his answers.*]

Is there any private agreement between you and Gore upon this subject?—None whatever.

Then why do you suppose Gore will pay you the money for this room, which he has not occupied for the last ten weeks?—His furniture I suppose is in it, though I do not know that.

Why do you suppose it?—Because otherwise he would not pay it.

When were you last in the room?—On Monday week.

Who was there then?—A gentleman of the name of Gallimore; but he is gone.

Did you ask for the money of him?—No, I did not.

Are there instances in the book of single men having possession of rooms and not paying rent?—That man, Cobb, whose name appears in the book, is a poor man; there is a man of the name of Bidlecombe with him, but he has not paid his fees.

How came three people to be chummed upon that room, Tupper, Derby, and Butler?—They desired to be together, they are countrymen, they are going out next week.

Is the book, as it now stands, a correct account of the payments?—It is not correct now; I can correct it; it was rent day yesterday.

Is this book a correct account for the last three or four weeks?—Yes, it is.

Is this book a correct account of the payments for the last five weeks?—No, it is not, they have got receipts.

Have you any other book containing an account of these payments?—No.

Is there any account any where of the payment for the last five weeks, which is correct?—No, I have no other book but this.

Your only account is in your head?—Yes, I know very well who pays me; perhaps I do not mark them off for six or seven weeks, but I give them a receipt, and when I receive of them again I see when the last payment was, and then I mark them up.

When you and Mr. Brooshooft talked together about Gore going out of the prison, did he order you to chum another person into that room?—I do not recollect that he did.

He said nothing about it?—No, but I did chum a man on.

But there was a man on before?—Yes, there was.

If Gore was not considered as a chum upon that room, would not the consequence have been, that another person would have been chummed upon that room?—Certainly.

No. 7 in staircase 6, is a room now occupied by Major Worg?—Yes.

To whom does he pay rent for that room?—To me.

Is that belonging solely to yourself, or do you divide it with the other turnkeys?—It is among the three turnkeys.

You have each your share?—Yes.

What is the name of the person who occupies the coffee-house?—Mr. Davey.

Has he any rooms in the prison besides those over the coffee-house?—Yes; he has two slips in No. 10 staircase.

No. 20 and No. 30?—Yes.

Who lives in those rooms?—That I am sure I do not know.

Would that appear from the book?—No.

He lets those rooms?—Yes.

By whose authority were those rooms given to him?—I cannot tell; that was before I knew the place.

How long have you been here?—Eight years.

He has besides, seven rooms over the coffee-house?—I do not know the number; I have been in the coffee-house.

Do you suppose it is near that?—Yes.

He lets those rooms?—Yes; when gentlemen come in that want apartments, they go there.

In what staircase is the bakehouse?—No. 7 in 11.

Has

Christopher Morris.

Has the master of the bakehouse any other room besides the slip you mentioned yesterday?—No, he has not; he has his bakehouse, and the room where he has bread to sell, and the slip.

In what part of the prison is his slip?—29 in 10.

Is there a room over the lower lobby occupied by the warrant officer of the place?—Yes.

Who is that warrant officer?—George Frodsham.

Did he live there?—No.

He lets that room?—Sometimes it is let; but it is empty now.

How long is it since it was let?—A fortnight or three weeks, I suppose.

It is generally let?—Six months out of twelve I suppose; it is such a little place people do not like it; and they are locked in at ten o'clock there, which they do not like.

How often are the chimnies in the prison swept?—There are sweeps in every day to sweep them; but the prisoners would not let us go into the rooms to have them swept; they are swept whenever they please.

By whose orders are the sweeps in?—Whenever they please, they come in.

Who pays them?—They come for the soot, I believe; they are glad to come when the prison is repaired for the soot; they can sweep 20 or 30 at once then.

Is it not the practice to fire the chimnies to clear the soot?—No, I never knew such a thing; the chimnies catch fire sometimes.

If a prisoner neglects to sweep his chimney, is any care taken upon that subject?—No; but the chimnies are fire proof, so that there is no danger.

Is the whole of the prison fire proof?—I believe the whole of the chimnies are fire proof.

Mr. *William Clapham* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. William Clapham.

You are at present living within the King's Bench?—Yes.

Can you give the Committee any information as to Mr. Gore's room?—I cannot give any information of my own positive knowledge, because I have no opportunity of enquiring out of doors; I had understood my expense for lodging here would be about a guinea a week, and this room I understand was let furnished for a guinea a week; I applied to Mr. Gallimore from Burslem in Staffordshire, who was then in it, requesting he would let me have it when he went out; he went away and took the key with him, and I believe the room was ultimately broken open, and it was let to Mrs. Bullen, who is a junior prisoner to me by half the time; I thought it exceedingly hard, never having applied to Mr. Brooshooft or Mr. Morris for what is called the chum ticket; 5 *s.* a week not being an object to me, presuming, that from my not applying for that chum ticket, I might the more readily get a room.

Does Mrs. Bullen live in the room now?—Yes, she does.

Do you know of whom she took it?—No, I do not.

Did you ever understand from Mr. Gallimore, of whom he had taken the room?—No, I did not ascertain that till afterwards; on enquiring of the different prisoners to whom the room belonged, I learned it on my stating what I considered a grievance.

Have you never applied, either to Brooshooft or Morris for the room?—No, I never told them that there was such a room vacant.

What room have you now?—I expect I shall get a room to myself to night; I got a chum ticket from Mr. Morris last week, and the gentleman is going out to-night or to-morrow; at present I am paying for my lodgings.

Where have you lodged?—I have lodged in two different rooms; at first I lodged with Mr. Meredith; having known Mr. Bull of the tap, I wrote to him, understanding that the prison was very full.

What have you paid for your lodgings?—A guinea a week.

Two in a room?—There were two in the room the first night, myself and another; that other went away soon afterwards, and two others were introduced, who paid each half a guinea.

Did that reduce your pay to half a guinea?—No, it was a guinea a bed, and those two persons had been partners in trade, and slept together.

To whom did you pay that money?—To Mr. Meredith, who was an old prisoner; he paid out his chum 5 *s.* a week.

Mr. William Clapham.

Who was the person paid out?—I do not know.

Did Mr. Meredith receive two guineas a week?—Yes.

Your permission was not asked for the introduction of the other two persons?—No.

What was the number of that room?—Two in five.

By whose authority or power were the two additional persons put in?—By Mr. Meredith's.

Was this room very decently furnished?—No, scarcely comfortably.

When you applied for a chum ticket, did they give it you directly?—Yes, I had it on an application to Mr. Brooshooft immediately.

Was there any fee upon the chum ticket?—No, I particularly asked the question when Morris gave it me; it may be necessary to state, with respect to the price I have paid for lodgings, that Mr. Meredith, the reputed owner of the room, pays for the hire of his furniture out of his profit.

He is in the prison?—Yes.

It was entirely by your own choice you selected Mr. Meredith's room?—It was by my own choice, inasmuch as Mr. Bull was my agent, having been 200 miles from this place, I wrote to him.

Do you suppose there are many persons in the prison, who pay for beds at the rate you pay?—Yes; a considerable number.

When you took the room of Mr. Meredith, did you consider that he retained the right to put in additional prisoners when he pleased?—No; but finding he was a man greatly distressed, who had been here for a considerable time, almost without the means of support, I did not object to it.

Has he been here many years?—I think upwards of two years.

Joseph Knowles was called in, and Examined.

Joseph Knowles.

In what room are you chummed?—In staircase 10, number 8.

Who is chummed with you?—Mr. Gore.

How long have you been chummed in the room?—Last Saturday week.

Did another man go out, just before you came in?—Yes; I believe there did.

What was his name?—I cannot say.

Should you know the name, if you heard it?—No; I do not know that I should.

How long have you been in the prison?—Three weeks to-morrow.

You were chummed in as soon as you came?—No, about a week after.

Do you live in the room?—No; I am chummed out.

What do you receive for being chummed out?—Five shillings a week.

Who pays you that?—Mr. Gore.

Have you received it of Mr. Gore regularly?—Yes; last Saturday week and Saturday.

Where do you live actually?—At No. 12 in 3.

How many people are there in the same room?—Six of us.

What do you pay there?—Nine shillings a week.

What do you pay yourself?—Nine shillings a week.

How does it answer for you to be chummed out at 5*s.* and to pay 9*s*?—I sleep along with Moses Crier, one of my countrymen, from Bath; the first week I slept with a man named Halings, and he charged me 9*s*, now I pay 7*s*.

Why did you go out and receive 5*s.* and pay 9*s*?—I did not know the nature of it.

Would you have staid if you had had leave, or did you go out by your own choice?—I would have staid if I had had leave, I think.

Where is your chum ticket?—At the lodge.

Did you understand you were obliged to go out, taking the 5*s.* a week?—That I cannot tell; I cannot read or write.

What passed when the chum ticket was given you?—I was told to go to the room, and when I went there, the door was locked, and Mr. Gore gave me the 5*s.* a week; I told him I would come and sleep there.

Would not you have gone in there and slept, instead of paying 9*s.* a week?—I would have gone in, and had a bed from home.

Why did not you go into this room?—Because they kept the door locked.

Have

Joseph Knowles.

Have you made complaint to anybody?—No; I never spoke to anybody about it.

You never spoke to Mr. Brooshooft or the chum master about it?—No.

How soon had you the chum ticket after you came in?—I came in on Saturday fortnight, and I had my chum ticket about a week after.

How came you not to apply for it sooner?—I did not know anything of it; I knew of it a few days afterwards; I did not know what a chum ticket was.

None of the turnkeys told you of it when you came in?—No.

Who told you of it?—A young man from Bath, of the name of Crier, told me.

How did you manage?—I knew four or five from our parish, and they told me they would get a bed for me; and I went and got a bed at one Haling's.

You had no bed to sleep in the first night?—No; there were six in that room where these persons were, and they would have taken me in among them; there were three beds and two in a bed; but Crier went to Halings and got me a bed there, and then he told me about a chum ticket, and I went to the gate, and they gave me a chum ticket, and I went up to 8 in 10.

You would prefer not receiving your 5*s.* and remaining in the room without a bed, to being in the room where you are at 7*s.* a week?—Yes; I would get a bed from home.

Did you tell Mr. Gore so?—I told Mr. Gore I was chummed there, and that I should expect 5*s.* a week, or I would come there, and then they gave me the 5*s.*

You never told him to take back the 5*s.* and you would come there?—No, I did not.

What do you mean by *they* gave you 5*s.*?—Mr. Gore.

Who else?—There was somebody else in the room, a woman.

Do you know her name?—No; I never heard it

Was it Mr. Gore or the woman who gave you the 5*s.*?—It was brought out by an old woman, a servant, who is there.

Were Mr. Gore and the woman both in the room?—Yes.

Your conversation was with Mr. Gore?—Yes; he was washing himself when I went in the morning.

He told you he would give you 5*s.*?—He said there was no chum on the room, and he should not give me anything; and I told him I had a chum ticket; I said, I am to come here; this was about Tuesday; I had the ticket on the Saturday. He said, I shall not give you anything till I have seen Mr. Morris; then he sent up a woman with the 5*s.* to me in a day or two afterwards, and on Saturday I went again, and got 5*s.* I was told I was entitled to the 5*s.* a week beforehand; I was satisfied where I was.

At what time was this you went to the room?—About ten o'clock in the morning; Mr. Gore was washing his hands.

Do you know whether Mr. Gore ever sleeps in the room?—I do not know; I never go up that way.

The first moment you came into the prison, did you not ask for a lodging?—No; when I came in, they asked me for 10*s.* 2*d.*; I had 3*l.* and paid it out of that.

Did not you ask them where you were to go?—No; they turned me in, and I saw two or three from our place, who I knew were here.

Have you paid anything since you came in but the 10*s.* 2*d.*?—No.

Mrs. *Rosetta Bulling* was called in, and Examined.

Mrs. Rosetta Bulling.

Do you live in 8 in 10?—Yes.

Of whom did you take that room, and whom do you pay for it?—I took it of Mrs. Gore.

What do you pay a week for it?—Twenty shillings a week.

Is Mrs. Gore in the prison?—No, she is not.

Where was the bargain made?—In the prison I spoke to her; she is not in the prison, I believe, now.

Was she in possession of the room at the time you took it?—No, I believe not; the room had been shut up some time when I took it; a Mr. Gallimore had just left the room, I understood.

Mrs. Rosetta Bulling.

Were you acquainted with Mrs. Gore before your coming to the prison?—No.

How came you to be introduced to her?—Mr. Sandom was supping at the place where I was boarding; and knowing I wanted a room, he told me he thought that would be at liberty; and in consequence of that he spoke for it, and I saw Mrs. Gore, and entered the room immediately.

Is the furniture of the room your own, or Mrs. Gore's?—Mrs. Gore's.

Where did you go the first moment you entered the prison?—To Mr. Mason's.

What led you there?—Mr. Mason was in the lobby at the time I came in; and hearing me say, I knew no person in the prison, he introduced me to his room, and I slept with Mrs. Mason a fortnight; and then he hired a bed for me where there were seven females, and there I slept for three weeks; in fact, till I heard of this room. During the time I slept there, I went to Mrs. Mason's, and boarded, as usual, thinking it would be a little respite; and from thence I came to the room I now have.

Have you ever had a chum ticket?—Yes, I was chummed upon the room where I slept.

With seven others?—Yes.

Had they all chum tickets there?—No; I believe I was the only one who had a chum ticket.

Mrs. Frederickson and Mrs. Bullen appear here to be chummed for that room?—Yes; Mrs. Frederickson was chummed there, and the others were lodgers with her.

Did you ever consent to their being lodged there?—No, I knew nothing of it, I paid her for my lodgings.

What did you pay?—A guinea a week for one bed.

In the same room with the other six?—Yes.

Did you pay this guinea a week, after you were chummed upon this room?—No, I paid only 16 *s.*; I had the 5 *s.* allowed me.

Did you understand the nature of the chum ticket at the time you went in?—No.

Who told you of it?—Mr. Mason got me the chum ticket, saying, I should have 5 *s.* the less to pay.

Did the turnkeys give you any information of it when you came in?—No; I did not hear anything from them upon it.

Did Mrs. Frederickson receive rent from the other persons in that room?—That I do not know; but they appeared to me to be lodgers, the same as myself.

When you took your chum ticket, what passed?—Nothing further, than that I told her, I had a chum ticket; and she said, I should have 5 *s.* less to pay for my rent.

And you paid sixteen shillings instead of twenty-one?—Yes.

You did not conceive the chum ticket gave you a right to live in the room without paying?—Not till I came away; I have since learned, that I had a right to take possession of part of the room without paying.

When was that?—I have been in my present room about a week.

From whom have you learned it?—In general conversation.

How long were you in that room?—About three weeks.

What did you pay to Mrs. Mason when you went?—I paid for board a guinea and a half a week; I was there for a fortnight; I paid a guinea a week for my lodging also.

Who is Mrs. Frederickson?—I do not know who she is.

Has she been here any length of time?—I believe she has.

Do you still retain your chum ticket in Mrs. Frederickson's room?—Yes; I am told I may demand my chum money from Mrs. Frederickson.

Have you your present room entirely to yourself?—Yes, I have.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Gore have come into that room without your permission?—No.

Have you ever been disturbed by a man of the name of Knowles coming to the room?—I do not know the name, but I have paid five shillings twice to a man who was chummed there.

Are you to pay the five shillings a week?—I am to pay the twenty shillings rent, and when I took the room of Mrs. Gore I understood there was to be no more incumbrance; immediately after I went into the room, only occupying it on Monday night or Tuesday morning, a man came to the door and demanded five

Mrs. Rosetta Bulling.

five shillings as a chum; I objected to it; he came a second and a third time, and I thought it better to pay it than be annoyed, and yesterday he came and I paid it again.

Was it a man in a blue coat, looking like a butcher?—Yes, a man who was just here.

What was the class of persons with whom you were living in Mrs Frederickson's room?—I believe they were tolerably pleasant women; decent in their conduct, and tolerably respectable.

Do you conceive you have the privilege of under-letting this room, if you chose it?—No, I do not; I have endeavoured to keep myself as close as possible.

Do you find it unpleasant walking about the prison?—No, I never go out any where; I have a son with me who belongs to the navy, a lad of fourteen years of age; I have had him principally with me, being from his ship, and I have had an opportunity of keeping him with me as much as I could, having a room to myself; I was anxious for a room, that I might have his society while he was on shore.

You do walk out with him occasionally?—I do with him, occasionally.

Are the prisoners generally civil and quiet?—I have never found them otherwise.

Without the sort of protection your son gave you, you would find it unpleasant to walk out?—Yes, I should think I might.

Would you prefer furnishing that room yourself, and paying five shillings, to renting it from Mrs. Gore?—If I could do it at less expense I should, but I do not know how the furniture may be in letting; and not knowing how long my stay may be, I should not like to go to much expense.

There is nothing in the prison of which you have had particular reason to complain?—Not any thing.

No chum ticket was offered you when you came to the prison first?—No; Mr. Mason was good enough to get it for me, saying, it would relieve me in point of rent.

Mrs. *Mary Ann Frederickson* was called in, and Examined.

Mrs. M. A. Frederickson.

You live in No. 5 in 7?—Yes.

How long have you been here?—Three years.

Were you originally chummed there?—I first lodged there a few weeks, and then I was chummed there.

Have you had any person chummed there lately?—Yes; I have one chummed now.

Who is that?—A lady of the name of Bullen.

How long did she actually live in the room?—She was with me three weeks; she was chummed there a fortnight, she lodged with me one week before that.

Did she pay any thing to you for lodging with you?—Yes.

How much?—Sixteen shillings a week.

Are you sure it was not more than sixteen shillings?—A guinea the first week, the same as I paid myself; that is the rule I went by.

To whom do you pay?—I speak of the time when I first came into the room; the person was gone out.

Did not her chum ticket give her a right to live in the room rent free?—She did not chuse it; she had no furniture, and that was for fire and so on.

Was she told when she came into the room that she might live there rent free?—No; she only came to me as a lodger, waiting till she hired a room.

Had she got a chum ticket?—Yes; then she paid five shillings a week less; she had a whole bed to herself.

It was a guinea the first week?—Yes.

What do you understand to be the meaning of a chum ticket, when it is given to a person?—They have the liberty either to come into the room, or take five shillings out of it.

They come rent free if they come?—Yes.

Was that explained to Mrs. Bullen?—I suppose it was; she was here a fortnight before she came to me.

How many persons were there in the room after Mrs. Bullen was chummed there?—There were two.

Mrs.
M. A. Frederickson.

Are you quite sure that while Mrs. Bullen was in the room there were only two persons?—No; I have got a young woman, with a little orphan child with me; I have three lodgers, in fact.

Making altogether six?—Yes.

How comes the little girl to be here?—She is my little girl; an orphan.

If Mrs. Bullen had brought in her own bed, would she have paid you anything?—Nothing at all.

Could she have brought in her son and her family with her; had she a right to do so?—Yes, undoubtedly.

How many beds had you?—Three.

Mrs. Bullen had a bed to herself?—Yes; my family slept together.

What size is the room?—A moderate sized room; it is not a large room; there are larger in the Bench, but it is only a temporary thing, not going on for weeks or months.

When Mrs. Bullen was with you, there were four prisoners besides yourself and two children, in the room?—Yes.

You received money from those other persons?—No; it is very seldom we get paid; it is very bad pay here; I intended it, certainly.

What was your bargain with your other lodgers?—Fourteen shillings a week.

Mrs. Bullen paid sixteen shillings?—Yes, but it was her voluntary act, she agreed to it.

Do you conceive you have any means of enforcing the payment for the lodgings from those persons?—No.

How long was it that you had any person chummed there before Mrs. Bullen?—I do not know; there is one perhaps goes out, and then it is a week or two before another comes; I generally pay them out.

Do you pay Mrs. Bullen for going out?—I must if she requires it; she has not asked for it.

Had you any chum during the whole of the last half year?—I do not recollect that I had.

No man is ever chummed upon your room?—No.

When there are no ladies in the prison you never have a chum upon your room?—No.

At the time you say you had no chum upon you, had you lodgers with you?—It is just as it happens, if they get a room they go; they never stop longer than is convenient to themselves.

Supposing you had two lodgers in the room, and that a person was chummed upon you, should you feel it necessary to turn out those two lodgers?—If they chose to go; there is no compulsion.

Has not the chum so chummed upon you, a right to demand, either that she should have half the profit, or that the lodgers should go out?—Yes, and she should find half of every thing else; but it has never been since I have been in the place.

If she does not chuse to find half, has she not the power of forcing the two lodgers out?—Certainly, if it is not amicable; but I never met with any one who was unpleasant.

Did Mrs. Bullen know that?—I have not a doubt she knows it.

You paid nothing for your chum ticket when it was given you?—No.

Does the chum master know that so many persons occupy your room?—No, not that I know of, and it is very seldom for more than ten days or a fortnight, and sometimes not more than a week.

Mr. *Joseph Harrison Cowlam*, having offered himself to the Committee to give Evidence, was called in, and Examined.

Mr.
J. H. Cowlam.

How long were you in the King's Bench prison?—About eleven months.

How long have you been discharged?—About a month.

Do you understand the system of chummage?—Yes.

When you came into the prison, what happened to yourself, as to the means of procuring a chum ticket?—I was like three-fourths of the prisoners when I came in; they get a bed as well as they can, for they expect to go out immediately; I had a chum ticket about six hours after I applied for it.

Did you apply the first day?—No; not the first day.

How soon afterwards did you apply?—In nine days after I came in.

Were

Mr. J. H. Cowlam.

Were you informed when you came, that you had a right to one?—Yes; that I should have one.

When you came in, did they tell you that you were entitled to one?—No.

What happened when you came in?—I endeavoured to get a lodging; which I did, at 10*s.* a week.

Was it your own choice that you did not apply for a chum ticket, or that you did not know that you were entitled to it?—I did not apply, expecting my friends to take me out immediately.

Did you know you were entitled to it?—No; not for some days.

When you did apply for it, did you get it?—Yes, in a few hours afterwards.

What persons were there in the room that you got?—No one; there was a man who was in the room; he kept it three days, and then I went in.

Did you buy him out?—No.

Did you inhabit the room yourself?—Yes.

Was any person chummed upon you during the time you were there?—Yes.

One or two?—Only one.

Did you pay him out?—Yes.

Did you conceive he had a right to come and live there if he pleased?—Yes; there being only 220 rooms in the prison, there must be two or three in a room where there are five or six hundred prisoners.

You gave him 5*s.* a week?—I was to have given him that, but he would not take it; he was a gentleman.

What became of him?—He is there now.

Did he live with you?—No, he had lodgings which his mother paid for a guinea and a half a week; he is a little deranged; he is a doctor.

Do you consider him as a deranged person?—He is a little cracked; he was sent there merely to escape a prosecution of some of the doctors, for carrying a child with the small-pox about the streets in his arms; but he is a very clever man, and attends all the prisoners who are sick in the prison, free of expense; while I was there I was ill, and he attended me for nothing; he would not take anything; he said, "I am fatigued to death, there are so many sick in the prison; but I can get medicines for nothing, by sending up to the hospital."

When you got your chum ticket, was anything required of you?—Not a halfpenny; they never got a draught of beer from me, I was never treated with any favour, and I was always watched while I remained here, and was not permitted to come to the gate; but there was reason for that, certainly; I made my escape eight times, before I came here; I was justified, however, in doing it; I was brought here in custody of a Bow-street officer.

Are there any abuses in the prison, of which you can give the Committee information?—There is a division in the kitchen, which there should not be; there is only one fire lighted in the kitchen, and there are 500 prisoners; I believe the law is, that the kitchen should be thrown open so many hours a day.

How is the kitchen regulated?—The prisoners are allowed to boil in the copper for a certain time; but the copper would not hold one-tenth part of the provisions.

Most of the prisoners dress their provisions in their own apartments?—Yes, they do.

How were your provisions dressed?—I paid three-pence a joint for the dressing.

Can you give the Committee any account of the manner in which the prison is cleaned?—It is cleaned by the watchmen.

By the scavenger?—Yes.

How often is it cleaned?—Every morning; he is sweeping and taking up dirt, when he comes off the watch; he sweeps partially; it is not kept very clean, for one or two are not sufficient to keep it clean, the prisoners in the back part are very filthy indeed.

Is the back part of the prison very dirty?—Generally.

Do the scavengers clean there?—Yes, we see them there at the back of the prison when we rise; the people are so very filthy in throwing things out of their windows all day and all night; if they were caught at it they would lose their rooms.

Have you ever known any lose their rooms for being caught at it?—No.

Have you known any instance of people being turned out of their rooms for any misconduct?—No, I have not, except in one instance; there was one man

turned

Mr. *J. H. Cowlam.*

turned out of his room, for having let his room at a great rent; if they sleep out of their room one night, they may be deprived of it.

Is that a power often exercised?—Not often.

During the time you were in the prison, did you not often see heaps and piles of dirt behind the prison, not taken away by the scavenger?—Yes, certainly; the places that were to receive them would not hold them, and they could not get the scavenger to come and take it away at that time.

Why not?—I do not know, but I understood the marshal could not.

Though you have before stated, that the scavengers were every morning in the prison, cleaning and carrying away the dirt, you say there were heaps and piles of dirt behind the prison, that were not carried off?—There are six recesses to receive the dirt; that is the place where I saw it.

When is it carried away from those recesses?—Not till they are full.

Is not the smell on the back of the prison very injurious?—Yes; there is a common sewer, which is a very great nuisance.

Is there any material information you can give the Committee, as to any abuses in this prison?—No, nothing material.

Mr. *William Audley* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. *William Audley.*

You are at present a prisoner within the King's Bench?—I am.

Since what time have you been so?—Since the 16th of November last.

When were you chummed?—About the third week after my coming here; I made two or three applications, and I received a chum ticket upon a back room.

How soon did you apply?—Immediately after I came.

Why did not you get it?—Because they said the prison was so full that I could not have it, and I paid half-a-guinea a week for lodgings.

Had you paid your fees?—Yes, on the night of coming in.

How many people were there in the room in which you were?—Four.

Who informed you you were entitled to a chum ticket?—I heard it from one of the prisoners.

Not from a turnkey?—No.

Where did you sleep the first night?—At No. 4 in 5; I paid 3*s.* 6*d.* the first night, and half-a-guinea a week afterwards for half a bed.

Do you suppose that every room had two chums in it at the time that a chum ticket was refused you?—No, I believe they had not.

Is it usual to chum three persons into one room?—When the prison is very full, that is done.

Were there three prisoners in any room at the time you were refused your chum ticket?—No; I never heard of three being chummed in a room, till after Christmas; indeed it was about that time, I was very unpleasantly situated with my chum, who was taken extremely ill.

Did you live in the room in which you were chummed from that time?—Yes? I went to it the next night after I was chummed.

Was your chum living with you at that time, a person of the name of Samuel Roysen?—Yes.

How soon was he taken ill after you went?—He was taken ill on the 2d of February.

With what complaint?—An intermittent fever, attended with pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs.

Who attended him?—Mr. Burnett; as Roysen was getting up in the morning he said to me, "Good God, Audley, I am very ill!" I asked him what was the matter; he said, he had a shivering fit upon him; I begged him to go to bed again, and I would see for Mr. Burnett, who is a prisoner.

How long did he continue ill?—Till the 17th; confined to his bed in a very dangerous and bad state; he then died at six in the evening; I was with him at the time, and attended him during the whole of his illness.

Who waited upon him during his sickness?—I did the first week; I then wrote to his home, and his nephew came and attended him afterwards.

Who procured him his food?—I did, what he had.

Did you mention to any one that he had an illness?—I did repeatedly.

Was any notice taken of it?—Not the smallest; I asked, if he could not be removed, or I could have another room given me, as I conceived it not right to be

Mr. William Audley.

be two or three in a room, for it had been represented as a bad fever; Mr. Burnett represented it as infectious.

Did the marshal or Mr. Brooshooft come to see about him?—No, they did not; I communicated it to the servants at the gate.

To whom?—To Mr. Filewood and Mr. Morris; Mr. Morris repeatedly; and requested I might be removed.

What was the answer given?—That it was impossible; that I must be in the room; and about this time, a third person was chummed in my room, a person of the name of Croft.

At the time Roysen was ill?—Yes.

After Mr. Morris knew he was ill?—Yes.

And after you had represented the necessity of your being removed, or the man being removed?—Yes.

At that time were there three chummed in every room in the prison?—Oh! dear no, nor in a third part.

Did Mr. Croft come into the room?—He came and produced his ticket; he told me at breakfast, he had a chummage in the room; he had lodged in the room a few nights.

During the time Roysen was ill?—Prior to his sickness.

Without having a chummage ticket?—Yes, for he could not get a chum ticket; he left the first or second day after Roysen being taken ill.

Have you in your own mind any idea of the chum master having any particular reason for chumming the man upon you at that time?—I cannot say any thing upon that subject.

Do you know that at that time there were two chums in every room?—No, for I had always understood to the contrary, and I believe there were not two to every room.

The illness of this person was last month?—Yes.

When Mr. Croft produced his chum ticket, what did you do?—I immediately came to the gate, and made a complaint; I told Mr. Morris he surely never intended to chum a third person into the room, when the man was so dangerously ill; Mr. Morris said he could not help it, they were chumming them generally three in a room; I said "there are plenty of rooms where there are only two."

Did you state that there were rooms where there was only one?—I do not know that I stated that; I believe that was the case, though I cannot prove it.

Did Mr. Morris take away the chum ticket from Mr. Croft?—Mr. Morris stated to me, "If that is the case (I think I had been to him three times) you must let him sleep in your room for a night or two, till I can get him a chummage;" I said then, "In the name of goodness let me go out of the room, here is a man very bad, and his nephew attending him."

The nephew slept in the room?—Yes he did, attending the poor man; Mr. Morris said "If you will let him sleep till Monday or Tuesday with you, I will give him another chummage."

Did he so sleep till the Monday or Tuesday?—Yes; and he then gave him another chummage.

Did you sleep in the room the whole of the time, from the 2d to the 17th of February, when the man died?—I did.

After you had made your complaint to Mr. Morris, and received no redress, did you ever complain to any one else?—I did not at that time; he would have slept another night in the room; but at ten o'clock at night I went up, expecting not to find him there; I was very angry about it, and made use of some observations that were exasperating to him; he said he would have me up to the gate, and he would bring his bed and sleep there in spite of me; I said he should not, and he went away; the man died on the 17th, and I slept in the room; I could go no where else, unless I paid half a guinea for a bed, or walked the parade.

To whom did you communicate the death of the man on the 17th?—As soon as the man was dead, I came up to the gate and reported it to Mr. Morris; Mr. Durant heard it, and I believe Mr. Filewood, the principal turnkeys.

What did they say?—They said it was a sad thing; that they did not think the man was so bad; I said, "I have reported to you he was so bad, and I have sent for his wife to come over."

From the time of his being taken ill to the moment of his death, did he receive

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any medical assistance, or any relief in any manner from the gate?—Not the smallest; to that I can speak positively.

Not the smallest increased attention?—Not the smallest notice wat taken of him, any more than if he was a dog.

How soon did the coroner's inquest sit upon him?—I gave notice to the warrant officer, George Frodsham, on the Friday afternoon, as soon as he had died; he told me he would give notice to the Crown Office the next morning; I slept there the next night, and the next day Major Burrows, who is on the same staircase, told me, if I brought my bed into his room I might sleep there the Saturday night; I wrote to Mr. Jones begging to be removed to another room, or that the body might be.

How long was it before the coroner viewed the body?—At twelve o'clock on the Monday.

When did the man die?—At six on the Friday evening, and I gave immediate notice.

After the coroner viewed the body, how soon was it removed?—At two o'clock the same day; I had arranged with the undertaker at the time he came to measure for the shell or coffin; I begged him to come at two, telling him that the coroner would be there at twelve.

Did the body become offensive?—Very much so,

If you had not given that instruction to the undertaker, do you think it possible the body would have remained longer?—There was no person took the smallest interest in it; the body lay exposed upon the bedstead, without any shell, till near twelve o'clock on the Saturday night.

Why did not you remove it out on to the staircase on the Friday night?—I was told I could not remove it till the coroner's inquest had sat; they said at the gate, it is impossible the body can be removed till the coroner's jury; I said it might surely be removed into the strong room, which was vacant at that time; the turnkey said it could not be done.

Was the room very offensive during the illness of the poor man?—Yes, very much so, insomuch that we were obliged to burn myrrh and frankincence, and vinegar.

Did he appear to suffer much, so that it was painful for you to witness his sufferings?—Yes, very much so.

Did you inform the marshal previous to the death of the person?—No, except by informing those who were his servants at the gate.

Did you inform Mr. Brooshooft?—I could never get to see Mr. Brooshooft about that time; after the man's decease I did see Mr. Brooshooft, for I applied to him to know the fees; he said 1 *l.* 14 *s.* I told him the man was in very indigent circumstances, and that I hoped he would waive taking the fees; but that was not done, and I spoke to Mr. Morris repeatedly to remove either the body or me.

Did the family or the marshal bury the man?—The family paid 1 *l.* 14 *s.* or 1 *l.* 14 *s.* 6 *d.* on going out of the gate, double fees.

Why double fees?—They say it is to go to the coroner; I saw the money paid to Mr. Filewood.

You know of your own knowledge, that 1 *l.* 14 *s.* or 1 *l.* 14 *s.* 6 *d.* was paid on the body going out of the gate?—Yes.

Was this man very indigent?—Yes, insomuch so, that he used to borrow money in the prison; he was a painter and glazier, and used to job about in the prison.

Was he in want of medicine, or that species of nourishment necessary for his state?—Not particularly so.

Was that found from the charity of individuals?—Yes, it was.

Not any part of it came from the marshal and his servants?—Not a halfpenny.

But for the charity of individuals, the man would not have had proper nourishment?—No, I think not.

Is this the only instance of death which has happened since you have been in the prison?—Yes, the only instance of death.

Do you know many persons who are sick in the prison?—There is one lying very dangerously ill in No. 6 in 6, Thomas Rogerson; he has been confined ever since the 7th of last month.

What

Mr. William Audley.

What is his complaint?—I thing the rheumatic gout, he is lying moaning, all night perhaps.

Is he in indigent circumstances?—Very much so, so that he has frequently nothing to support him.

Do you know whether he is upon the poor side of the prison?—He has no allowance, I believe he has the county sixpences.

How many persons are there in the room where he is sick at present?—There have been six, but the average has been five ever since the man has been confined there; there are now five people. I found this poor man very bad going in; on hearing his moanings I went to the gate, and stated the circumstance to Mr. Morris; he said he would name it to Mr. Brooshooft. I stated, that the poor man was in that state he had not a blanket or a rug, but what he was beholden to others for.

Did he sleep on the ground?—No, he lay on a bed or mattrass.

Belonging to himself, or furnished by the charity of others?—Furnished by the charity of others; he has often told me, he was sleeping upon the floor in a corner when he was taken ill; but that when he was taken ill they had charity upon him.

On being taken ill, the charity of individuals gave him part of a bed?—Yes.

When you told Mr. Morris of his illness, did Mr. Morris give you anything to relieve him?—He gave me a rug; I asked for a blanket; he said they had no blankets, but he would give him a rug belonging to somebody else; he said the blanket should follow the next day.

Did it?—No, it did not; Mr. Morris said, I will speak to Mr. Brooshooft, and something shall be sent the next day.

Since that period up to the present moment, has he received any relief from the gate?—A Mr. Lewis brought him from the gate 5*s.* and 5*s.* 6*d.*; and the day the Committee were here before he had 6*s.* brought him also from the gate; and yesterday morning he had a rug and a blanket sent, but not till yesterday morning.

The 5*s.* 6*d.* and 6*s.* was sent him by the officers at the gate?—It was brought by Mr. Lewis, as if from them; he was in the lobby at the time I made the complaint to Mr. Morris, and Morris said he would send something; and he said, Mr. Lewis I will get you to take it to him. I presume it came from the gate, of course I did not know till this morning he had received 5*s.* and 5*s.* 6*d.*

Do you know that it is the practice of the marshal, or those under him, to give relief to persons in a similar distressed situation?—I know of no other circumstance but this one.

Since you have been in the prison, has it fallen within your own observation, that there have been indigent persons wanting relief; and wanting it, not having received it?—Yes; there is one circumstance has come to my knowledge this morning:—a poor man of the name of Leendert de Beer, who is now suffering under a violent liver-complaint and jaundice, indeed so much so, that Mr. Burnett came and mentioned to me this morning, that it is impossible the man should live, he is unable to go about from place to place. I found him leaning against the wall of the state-house; he said he was very ill. I asked him if he wanted for any thing; he said he had no friends. I asked him whether he had any money; he said he had a little money, a few pence now; but that on Sunday he had only a bit of dry bread.

Has he the sixpences?—I believe not; there have been many who have applied for the sixpences, who have not been paid, nor is there enough to pay them; there is another man, who since the death of Roysen has been chummed upon me, and he has not a halfpenny to help himself; his name is Piper.

Where does De Beer live?—At 16 in 3. There are five men, two women, and two children, sleep in that room.

The women are wives of some of the prisoners?—I presume so; there are three chummed upon the room, the rest are lodgers.

Has De Beer received any assistance from the gate?—No; Mr. Burnett the surgeon met with him accidentally, and asked him what was the matter with him. He found he was in a bad state, and prescribed for him, and sent medicines himself.

Did Mr. Burnett attend Mr. Roysen?—He did all the time.

Did he furnish him with medicines at his own expense?—No, he did not; it was

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was from money sent him by his friends; as money was sent him by any friend, I laid it out to the best advantage.

From friends in or out of the prison?—Out of the prison; the man had been in a very respectable line of business, and was very much respected, and had friends who brought him five or six shillings.

Is there a person of the name of Clements, a butcher, in the prison?—Yes.

Where does he live?—At No. 12 in 3.

Has he been confined to his bed?—He has not been able to go about his business for five or six weeks.

What is the matter with him?—He run a steel into his thigh, which proved of serious consequence to him; and if Mr. Burnett had not been at hand, it would have been fatal, for the wound was getting into a gangrene state.

How many are there in that room?—Five or six.

Do you know whether he is in distressed circumstances?—Yes; the man told me, if it had not been for Mr. Burnett's assistance, he could have got no medical assistance from outside; having no friends.

There is no medical attendant upon the gaol?—No.

Are there many persons at present in the prison, in your own knowledge, requiring medical assistance?—There is another gentleman, a Mr. Corbyn, at No. 3 in 6, the room directly over mine; he had the misfortune to break a blood vessel from coughing; fortunately the person chummed upon his room, went up to his room at the time, and found him in a very dangerous state, nearly choaked from the effusion of blood, and but for that circumstance, he might have lost his life; that fortunately happened just before the gates were shut; the person who found him is named Buggins; this person is now chummed with him; Mr. Corbyn is in the room with him; he is in a very dangerous state.

Is he in indigent circumstances?—No, I believe not.

Do you, from your own observation, conceive that there is the greatest necessity for a medical attendant in the prison?—I do. A case occurred a very few days since, of a person having, by some mistake or other, taken something of a poisonous nature, which was not discovered until a few minutes prior to the gate being shut, or a very short time at least, which fortunately was just in sufficient time to procure medicine from the outside to counteract the effects of this poisonous ingredient; had not that been the case, there is no doubt the man must have died, for he was in the most dangerous state; Mr. Burnett can speak as to that case; had not Mr. Burnett been here, and had the gates been closed, the man must have lost his life.

Do you live in the front part of the prison called the Parade, or in the back of the prison?—In the back.

From your own observation, is the street before the lodging-rooms in the back part of the prison, kept in a dirty state?—It is generally in a very filthy and dirty state.

Not only filth and rubbish of every description piled up in the places which are designed to hold them, but the street itself covered with filth and dirt?—Completely; and up against the side of the walls leading from one dust-hole to another.

How often do the scavengers carry away the dirt of the prison?—There is a man goes round pretending to brush up the place every morning, but he only goes with a broom and a shovel, not with a cart; therefore of course he can brush but very little up.

How often is the dirt itself carried away by means of a cart?—That has been done but twice since I have been here, which is from the 16th of November.

You are positive you should have known, if it had been done?—Yes.

When was the last day that the dirt and filth were so carried off?—Two days prior to the Committee visiting the prison last week; it was then cleaned up generally, and an extra hand was employed to assist the men who are in usual attendance.

Is it the custom of the prisoners to throw dirt and filth out of their windows?—In the back part it is; it is so very convenient for them to do it, there being no vessel into which they can empty dirty water; the first thing that offers is the window, and it is very frequently thrown out, and sometimes on persons passing by at the time.

Do you know whether it is a rule of the prison, that a person so doing shall be liable to have his room taken from him?—I never heard of it.

Have

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Have you any doubt that the officers of the prison must constantly have seen that thing done?—There cannot be a doubt of that.

It is in point of fact, a circumstance of so common occurrence, that it is absolutely impossible the different officers of the prison should not have seen it?—I have seem them notice it, being passing at the time, and have heard them call out to the persons doing it.

Are not the reservoirs which contain the urine very offensive.?—Particularly so.

How often are they emptied?—About once a week; there are reservoirs at every corner of the yard, where there are stones fixed up; and about once a week a man comes in from the dye-house with casks, which are taken from one to the other, and filled through a funnel.

It is understood the contents of those casks afford a profit to the persons holding situations in the prison?—It is understood so.

Have you any doubt that it would lead very much to general convenience and comfort, if drains were laid on, and the filth carried away directly?—There is no doubt of it, for the stench is very great on a warm day when these reservoirs are opened.

It is the existence of these reservoirs for urine creates a great nuisance in the back part of the prison?—It is.

Since you have been in the prison, has there been any chimney on fire?—Yes; repeatedly.

Do you believe it to be the custom of the prisoners to let their chimneys take fire and burn clean, instead of sweeping them?—I believe it is, very frequently; there is no regular chimney sweeper belonging to the prison, appointed by the marshal gratis; there are sweeps come in, one or two in the course of the week, and cry around, the same as they may do in the streets; but if you employ them to sweep your chimney, you must pay them.

They do not sweep for the soot only?—No; they charge sixpence; it is a common observation when a chimney is on fire, There is another saving sixpence, he will not give the marshal sixpence.

These chimneys are swept at the expense of the individuals, or the chimney sweeper paid by the soot?—Yes, so I understand; I have not had occasion to employ any one; my chimney has not been swept while I have been there.

Do you happen to know whether there is a fire engine within the walls of the prison?—I believe not; I have not seen or heard of one; there is no doubt if there was, it would be in the inside of the prison, because if it was on the outside, the gates being locked, it could not be got in at night; there is no place in the inside for a fire engine.

Is there any water in the prison in case there should be a fire?—There are three spring pumps, and I think three supplied from the Thames by reservoirs; there is plenty of water.

Is it within your own knowledge, or have you any ground for a reasonable belief, that there are any abuses on the subject of the chummage?—I have every reason to suppose there is a very great abuse.

In what way?—In regard to fees being given to certain persons at the gate to procure a room; it may frequently occur, a person may give three, four or five pounds for a room; I have heard it named.

Is the person who has so named this, in the prison at present?—I do not immediately recollect whether he is or not; a person of the name of Phillips told me himself, that he gave 4 *l.* to some person for the room he now occupies.

To one of the officers?—I am not sure whether to one of the officers, or the person who left the room; but according to the established rules of this place, no person has a right to demand any thing of a person coming in.

You do not know whether any person has paid money to the chum-master for a chummage?—No, I do not know it so as to prove it; there is no doubt a fee is given, but it is not openly given.

Is it a circumstance talked of amongst the prisoners, that advantageous chummages are procured by this means?—A common thing; and it amounts almost to a well-known fact.

From the generality of the conversation in the prison, no person appears to doubt it, though no person is distinctly able to prove it?—Just so.

From the course of your observation in the prison, if the marshal had visited frequently,

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frequently, from any conversation you have heard, or any thing you have witnessed, would any danger have arisen?—Certainly not the least; nor do I believe that Mr. Jones has ever been in the prison since I have been there; Mr. Brooshooft, the deputy marshal, is in it frequently.

Are punishments ever inflicted in the prison?—Yes.

By whose order?—The marshal's.

Have there been many persons imprisoned while you have been here?—There was one, of the name of Whenhead, for keeping what was called a whistling shop, a gin shop; he was a month in solitary confinement in Horsemonger-lane; he has since come back, and is discharged.

Have there been any confined in the strong room?—Yes; several, for two or three days and nights.

With or without a bed?—I believe only a bundle of straw.

Did you ever hear persons, so confined, complain of the cold they suffered during their confinement?—No.

Do you know a person in the prison of the name of Piper?—I do.

Is he chummed upon you?—Yes.

Do you know any thing as to the circumstances of his situation?—I do; he is a very poor man, without any money or friends to assist him; he has been for several days almost in a starving state; on Sunday night, he told me he had not a halfpenny to help himself with; and he begged I would give him a dinner, saying, he was afraid he should break his heart; he told me he had no bed or bedding to lie upon when he first came to me; that they had been seized or detained by the person where he had been lodging and boarding; I asked him how long he had been there, and immediately came and complained at the gate, and I saw Mr. Brooshooft upon the business; I related the business to him; he said it was a very hard case, and he immediately sent one of the criers to call up Mr. Hatfield, who detained his bed for 2 *l.* 12 *s.* (he has since been discharged) Mr. Brooshooft asked me, if I would give him a voucher for the man's bed and bedding still continuing in the room; I engaged to do so, and the bed and bedding were given up to be used in my room.

Did he tell you any thing as to the seizure of his linen and cloaths?—He did; he told me a man of the name of Beaumont had seized his linen and wearing apparel for 2 *l.* 0 *s.* 8 *d.* which he owed him.

These different debts were for board and lodging?—They were.

Did he tell you he could not get chummage for a month after he came in?—He did; and that was the cause of his running so much into debt; a part of the property which was seized, has been pawned by the man who detained it, and he will not give it up, although the remainder of the property so held, has been transferred to a second person, and that person came and asked me what he should do with it; that he took it for 18 *s.* but if any person would give 12 *s.* for it, he should have it; I advised him to pawn it for him, and he gave him up the ticket.

Piper is in possession of the ticket for 12 *s.* for a part of his property?—Yes, Beaumont had previously sold a part of this property, an umbrella and other things, and pawned for 11 *s.* which he refuses to give up the ticket for, unless he is paid the balance of the account due to him.

Do you know whether drinking is continued to a late hour at the coffee-room? No, not after 11 o'clock; the persons in the smoking room, and every other part, are ordered out at 11 o'clock, and the same at the tap.

Do you know whether there is any drinking continued after that hour at the brace?—I do.

State to the Committee what you know?—I have repeatedly seen persons sitting there; some in a drunken state, and have heard quarrels there, as late as half-past two in the morning; indeed that place is altogether a nuisance; it induces persons to go and spend money and kick up riots; there is no particular time stated for that shutting up.

So that it might happen persons might be drinking there on a Sunday morning, sitting up all Saturday night?—Yes; I have known instances of persons drinking there very late on Saturday night, breaking into the Sunday morning; they have a large tub at the brace, and they send up cans for large quantities of beer the last thing before the tap shuts up at night, and they remain drinking in the brace great part of the night.

Do the people at the tap superintend the distribution of the liquor out of that reservoir?—No.

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Who superintends it?—A person of the name of Murrel, who keeps the brace; I believe the brace was originally intended for the infirmary of the place; the room over it, for the females, and that used as a drinking room, for the men.

Do you know that it was ever used as an infirmary?—Not of my own knowledge.

Are the coffee-house, the tap and the brace, open during Divine service on Sundays?—Not that I know of; I believe not.

You believe them all three to be shut?—Yes; on the Sunday morning.

Is there much drunkenness in the prison?—No; not considering the number who are here; it is not great, to my knowledge.

There are not many riots in the prison arising from drunkenness?—There have not been very lately; there were three persons punished the other day for riot and drunkenness, and since that they have been pretty quiet.

Mrs. *Maria Rawlings* was called in, and Examined.

Mrs. Maria Rawlings.

What happened when you came into the prison, was a chum ticket given to you immediately?—Not immediately.

Where were you conducted, or in what way were you treated?—There was a woman who keeps a lodging room; there were seven people slept in the room with me; I did not sleep, but sat on the bed.

What did you pay?—Three shillings.

Who recommended you to that room?—Mr. Morris.

He did not say any thing to you about a chum ticket?—No; and he said the next day, when I came, there is fourteen shillings, and something to be paid for fees.

Are you positive you paid fourteen shillings?—Yes; I am positive I gave him fifteen shillings, and took change; it was between fourteen and fifteen shillings; I know the gentleman with me gave him the halfpence.

Where were you chummed?—Then I was chummed on this lady, Mrs. Hamilton.

How long did you continue with her?—Nearly three weeks; then I went up to Mr. Morris, and said, how exceedingly unpleasant it was, this lady being an old prisoner; and I sent for Mr. Brooshooft to the coffee-room; a gentleman came who transacts my affairs, and we had some wine; and I said, Mr. Brooshooft, you will have the goodness to chum me; he said he would on Tuesday, but he took no notice of it; and then I went to Mr. Morris, and said, Good God, it is a sad thing for me; I want a room to myself, having affairs of business to transact; and he said, Madam Barier is going out, and I will chum you upon that room; I said, will the chum be paid out; he said, yes. Instead of that, just as my dinner came up, a drunken woman, who had been chummed out, came up with a drunken man, from the tap. I went into the place; there was Mr. Brooshooft; I said, what am I to do? he said, the Committee was coming here; that they had taken all the power from their hands, and I must keep them out.

Was this woman chummed upon the room?—Yes.

Had you reason to believe she would stay out when you went into the room?—Yes, I was to pay her five shillings; I sent her down the five shillings, and yesterday I sent her a dollar, begging she would give up; she said she would not; she brought up a Frenchman yesterday, and I spoke to him in French.

By what authority did you lock the door, and keep her out?—Under Mr. Brooshooft's authority.

Did he tell you to do so?—Yes, he told me so; to keep the door locked; Mr. Dudley can tell the Committee the same thing.

Mrs. *Sarah Hamilton* was called in, and Examined.

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton.

What passed on your coming into this place?—When I came in this last time, having been here before, I expected a little civility from Morris; he was, at the time I knew him before, in a very low situation, and I thought he would have shewn some humanity and civility; but I have not experienced any favour at all from any of them.

The first time you came in, were you acquainted with the custom of chum tickets?—No, I knew nothing about it.

Mrs. Sarah Hamilton.

What happened when you first came in?—My daughter was with me; she was a young girl then of seventeen; we went into the coffee-room, and she cried very much; a great many men came, and offered me their rooms. I had two young daughters with me, and I did not know what to do. At last a man stepped up, and said I should have his room, if I liked. I asked the price; he said two guineas. I said to my daughter, two guineas a week! we cannot think of taking it. She said, take any thing for a week, for God's sake; what shall I do among so many men? She went, and spoke to the man, and agreed to give him a guinea and a half a week; that was on the Saturday. The next morning I said, I dare say money is very acceptable, and I gave him a guinea, promising to give him half-a-guinea afterwards. I wrote to my friends, and Lord Robert Seymour called upon me; and he exclaimed, at finding I was paying that for a room in a prison. I expressed a wish to get into the rules; he saw the Marchioness of Hertford. I was in for only sixty or eighty pounds. My Lord found there must be two bail; he could not go as bail himself, and did not like to ask his trades-people, and I staid in the Bench; and the men who were in the prison said to me, "you can buy a room;" and they brought me a man who had a room to sell. He asked me six guineas for the room. I said, but I am not sure I may have the room after I have paid my money; they said, oh, yes, if you send Filewood a fee. At last I inclosed Filewood a one pound note, and my young daughter took it to him in the market, which was where the coffee-house now is; he immediately smiled, and was quite different directly; and he said, "tell your mamma, whenever she pleases, I will chum her upon any room she likes; I then offered the man 4 *l.* saying that was enough, as the room wanted doing up; he said 2 *l.* of this is to go to Filewood out of the 4 *l.*; I gave him the 4 *l.* and was then chummed on the room; whether he carried the 2 *l.* to Filewood I do not know; when I came away, I was treated exceedingly ill; I settled my business by giving my creditor a promise to pay by instalments; and Mr. Filewood hurried me so, that he would not give me time to get the money back; but he said you have had your discharge, and off you must go, and he came on the Monday and was angry at my selling the fixtures; I had bought the green door, and had bought the lock, and so on.

Had you no lock to the door when you went there?—No; I wrote my compliments and that I was sure Mr. Jones would let a female have a lock to the door; Morris said, if there was a lock he must buy it; I said I was sure Lord Ellenborough would not wish females to be in a prison without locks to the doors, if he knew of it; but I could not get one without buying it myself; I have not been able this time to give them anything, or I know I should have been very differently treated from what I have been.

Are you alone, or is any body chummed with you?—I am alone now.

What family have you with you now?—Only my daughter's child.

How many daughters have you?—Two daughters; I am an officer's widow; I am supersedable, but have not been able to supersede my action, and my creditor this day sent me my discharge; I have one little detainer that my daughter is going to try to get the man to take off.

Did you pay any fee when you went out before?—My friend did.

Have you paid any fees at coming in?—No; I said I had not got it to pay; I desired them to present my compliments to Mr. Jones, and that I was distressed, and had not got it; and I received his compliments, and it was very well.

Mercurii, 15° *die Martij*, 1815.

At the Marshal's House:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

Mr. *William Audley* again called, and Examined.

Mr. William Audley.

IS that Paper hung up generally in the prison; [the printed paper, dated 1st January 1800]?—There is something similar to this, but not altogether correct; this is not immediately like it.

Mr. William Audley.

What is the difference?—The name is different; it is Mr. Brooshooft instead of Mr. Hill; the date is the same.

Is it to the same effect?—Yes; to the same effect.

Is it the same in words?—I think there is some little difference as to the claims in regard to persons leaving rooms.

Where is it stuck up?—In the coffee-room, in the smoking-room, and in the upper lobby.

Has it been up all the time you have been here?—Yes, I believe it has; I believe it has very little effect, for the dealing for rooms is of daily occurrence.

Is a copy of this stuck up in the lobby, so that prisoners may see it at their first entrance?—No; it is placed in a divided space, similar to a slip in the left hand lobby.

You have no doubt that a contrary practice prevails to that enjoined in that paper?—There is no doubt of it.

Having said a contrary practice prevails to that enjoined upon this paper, can you state instances of dealings for rooms?—Yes; I can state repeated instances where persons have given to those going out money for rooms.

The second rule is, that all the rooms having been put into a perfect state of repair, the marshal hopes that no person will make any alteration whatever in any of them; has there been any breach of that rule?—There is no doubt of it; for alterations are made in rooms, and thereby expenses incurred to the next comer in.

Is it the practice in the prison for a prisoner to make such alterations in his room as he may think proper; and does he charge the expense of those alterations to the person who succeeds him?—There is no doubt it is a very common practice; he does make alterations in the room according to his own fancy and taste; and if he can meet with a person, the next person chummed upon the room who will pay for those expenses, he makes a bargain with him; it is entirely at the option of the person coming in, whether he will pay.

Is it not the usual practice for the person who succeeds, to pay?—There is no doubt of it; it is a traffic carried on.

It is a point of honour in the parties, that the successor shall pay his predecessor for the expenses he has incurred?—Yes; no doubt of it.

Supposing the successor in a room which has been altered in the way stated, should refuse to pay the expense that has been incurred, what is the consequence?—Provided he has got a chummage he can of course go into the room; it is my firm belief, that there is an understanding between the parties going out and the persons at the gate, the chum master or others, as to who shall be chummed upon the room, that he may get a remuneration for the expense he has laid out.

What is your reason for that suspicion?—My reason is, that if the person who is the senior, and ought to have the next chummage, cannot afford to give so much money, it strikes me a person is picked out who will pay for the fixtures of the room.

In point of fact, does it frequently happen, that persons who do not stand next in seniority for chummage get chummed into good rooms, while other persons who are senior at the time cannot obtain rooms?—Most assuredly; too frequently.

Are you accustomed to have your dinner dressed at the public kitchen?—I have frequently.

Do you pay anything for so having it dressed?—Yes.

Is it not a rule in the prison that any prisoner can have his dinner dressed, that is to say boiled, between the hours of twelve and three, gratis?—Yes.

Have you ever paid any thing for having your dinner boiled between those hours?—I have; I paid fourpence for a small piece of pork I had boiled, of about six pounds weight, between those hours, a penny for boiling a few potatoes, and twopence for boiling a little brocoli at another time.

Is that demand generally made?—Very generally.

Was it a demand made upon you, or was the money given in the nature of a gratuity to the cook?—I went to the kitchen, and asked whether I could have such and such meat and vegetables cooked; they said yes; I asked whether it would be any expense; they said yes, the meat fourpence and the vegetables a penny, and twopence in another case.

Did you mention the hour at which you wished to have them cooked?—Yes, to be ready at half-past one o'clock.

Mr. William Audley.

Is it within your knowledge that that demand has been made upon others beside yourself?—Yes.

Have you ever made any complaint to any one upon it?—I have not.

Did you make any remonstrance in the kitchen?—I did not.

Have you at any time?—No.

Was the present cook in the kitchen at that time?—Yes, Mrs. Chick; it was her I paid.

Can you account for it as a mistake?—Certainly not; it is too common a thing.

Is it generally considered in the prison, that unless such payment was made the victuals that are sent to be cooked, would run some danger of being spoiled?—No doubt; the observation generally is and has been since the Committee visited the prison on a former occasion; what would be the use of it, we should have our victuals spoiled; we should have cold water thrown into the copper, or something to spoil it.

Has that ever occurred?—Not to my knowledge.

Is it the common practice to pay or not to pay for boiling within those hours?—To pay; I have done it frequently myself for vegetables.

Have you paid for every thing you have had cooked in that way?—I have never had anything without paying; and I have always dined within those hours.

Have you always had your provisions boiled?—Very frequently; vegetables always.

How long have you been in the prison?—Ever since the 16th of November last. I omitted to state yesterday, in that part of my evidence which related to the death of Roysen, that on the Tuesday evening following his removal, I was attacked with the same complaint of which he died; and had it not been for the immediate assistance of Mr. Burnett, it is most probable, that I should have been laid up for some time.

What opportunity have the prisoners during the night of communicating with the turnkeys?—Not the smallest; from ten o'clock at night, when the gate is shut, till half-past eight the next morning.

Have you no means nor opportunity through the watchman?—No, the watchman has no more opportunity than we have; for there is no bell or anything to give an alarm with.

There is no bell, nor means of communication between the two lobbies?—No, there is not.

Are there any other grievances you have to state to the Committee?—In regard to the payment of postages of letters, there is a halfpenny on every letter which comes into the Bench, charged over the charge of the regular postage, whether General or Twopenny Post.

On what plea is that halfpenny demanded?—I do not know.

By whom is the halfpenny charged?—By the person who keeps the Post Office in the Bench; a person who has a room, and keeps the Post Office there.

Do you know whether that person is nominated by the marshal?—I do not know.

Is he a prisoner?—Yes, he has been here I believe between thirty and forty years.

What is his name?—Hoskis or Hodgkinson, I think.

Does he deliver out the letters to the prisoners rooms, or do they come to the Post Office?—They come to the Post Office for them, they are all put into the window, and they come to look for them.

He first pays the postage of all these letters from the Post Office, and then charges you the postage and the halfpenny?—Yes, I presume so, we pay it to him.

The letters would not be delivered unless you paid, not only the postage but the additional halfpenny?—No.

Robert Robinson was called in, and Examined.

Robert Robinson.

How long have you been in the prison?—Five weeks; I came from Manchester.

How soon were you chummed?—As soon as I applied for the ticket.

How soon was that?—About the first week.

Was

Robert Robinson.

Was there any other person in the room into which you were chummed?—Yes, Mr. Bowes.

What is your number?—Six in 1.

Who was living in the room into which you were chummed?—Mr. Bowes; there was a chum upon the room who was paid out, and I have paid one out also; whether Mr. Bowes was chummed upon that room I do not know.

You went into the room in consequence of a chum ticket?—Yes.

What arrangements were made when you went into the room?—There was an arrangement between me and Mr. Bowes; I paid for some fixtures.

How much did you pay Mr. Bowes?—I paid him six guineas.

Did he demand the six guineas of you?—No; the fixtures he had paid for, he told me that I should have them at the same; I considered them as worth considerably more money.

Did you understand before you received the chum ticket, what you would have to pay for them?—No, not before I received the ticket. Mr. Bowes said I should have his part of the room, if I would pay that, and he gave me a guinea out of the money. I did not know the price he had paid for them before I had the ticket. It was Mr. Richards got me the chum ticket, who had been here before I came.

He bespoke you the room?—Yes.

Did Mr. Richards inform you of the terms on which you could have that room?—By paying for the fixtures. There were five slept in the room in which I was, and I had a wife and seven children; and being subject to being laid up very often, I wished to get into a room as soon as possible.

What fixtures did you get for the six guineas?—Two mahogany sideboards, a mahogany table under the window, a board that lifts up and down, a blind and a stove grate. I consider the fixtures to be worth 18 *l.* or 20 *l.*

How do you occupy the room; alone or with another?—There is another gentleman with me.

You let lodgings?—I pay my chum out 5 *s.*; I do not know his name; I have scarcely been out of my room.

Have you a gentleman living with you now as a lodger?—Yes; I have borrowed a bed, which I pay 8 *s.* a week for; and I pay for coals, candles, and a servant to clean the room; and he pays me a guinea a week.

What is the name of your chum?—I do not know his name; he has brought me a chum ticket each week, and I have given him the 5 *s.*

Do you conceive that man has a right to come in, if he chooses?—Yes; I believe he has a room to himself; whether he has his family I am not certain; I have never seen him but twice.

Did you pay the money for the fixtures?—Yes; and have got a receipt for it.

What passed between you and Morris, the chum master, upon this subject?—Not a word.

Who brought you the chum ticket?—I went down to the gate; I was introduced to Mr. Morris; he said there were two chummed upon the room; Mr. Bowes said he was agreeable to my being chummed upon the room.

In consequence of Mr. Bowes's interference, you suppose you were chummed upon the room?—Yes; I could not be chummed upon the room without his granting it, because I understood there were two chummed upon the room.

You did not pay off two chums?—No; Mr. Bowes himself was the other; he was in the room for a week or a fortnight after I took the room.

What part did Mr. Richards take in making this arrangement?—When I first came in I agreed to pay 5 *s.* a night for sleeping in the room; as I stopped a fortnight there they charged me but a guinea a week; I slept in a bed; another man slept in a chair; Mr. Richards provides an ordinary, and I dine with him; he said he would see for a room for me; and he waited upon Mr. Bowes, hearing he was going, and I agreed to pay whatever Mr. Bowes had paid for entrance; he had paid seven guineas, and he gave me a guinea back.

Do you know whether any part of that money went to the chum master?—Not a farthing, that I know of; I did myself offer some money to the chum master, but he would not receive a sixpence.

How do you expect to get the money again when you go out?—I understand I can get a person chummed to that room, who will pay me, or that I can take away the fixtures.

Robert Robinson.

Did you understand from any persons that it was a practice in the prison to give a fee to the chum master?—I understood from the prisoners in general, that that there was a tip, or something of that kind; but he would not receive a sixpence.

Did you understand from your friend Mr. Richards, that he had given anything?—No; I have heard him say that a gentleman who was ill in the prison for five or six weeks, was supplied with wine and so on, from the gate, and never was better off in his life.

Did the chum master give any reason for not taking the money?—I invited him to the coffee-house, and asked him to take some wine; he would not; I shook hands with him, and put a one pound note into his hand, and he returned it, and would not take a farthing.

Was any person present?—No; and I saw him in my room afterwards, and offered him, and he said he would not take a farthing; I told him I understood it was customary; he said no; he would not take anything.

What occasioned Mr. Bowes giving you back a guinea?—Because I was chummed upon the room a fortnight before that, and it was for my lodging out, I suppose.

You mentioned that you understood you could get a person to be chummed upon your room when you go out of prison, who will purchase the fixtures?—Yes; or that I may take them away.

From whom have you understood that?—From Mr. Bowes, and from the prisoners in general.

How are you to proceed to get a person chummed upon this room, who will pay you for the fixtures?—It must be strangers who come in; I give notice to some of the prisoners, that I am going, and wish to sell to them, and then they must apply at the gate.

Would you make application to the chum-master to get a person to take them off your hands?—No; I should speak to the prisoners.

Is there any public notice put up in the prison, when a person wishes to sell the fixtures in his room?—No; not to my knowledge.

How long is it since you offered Morris the 1 *l.* note, and he refused it?—It was at the time I was bargaining with Mr. Bowes for the room.

How long ago?—About a month ago.

What fees did you pay when you first came in?—I paid, I think 10 *s.* 2 *d.* at the gate.

Did you pay any other fees?—No other, except the coach coming down here.

At what time did you arrive here?—At half-past nine at night.

Had you any friends in the prison?—No.

What happened; did any one tell you you were entitled to a chum-ticket?—When I got to the coffee-room, some said they could let me lodgings; some asked me half-a-guinea a night, and one person offered me for 5 *s.* and I went there; there were four others; they said if I took it for a week, it should be a guinea.

Why did not you apply for a chum-ticket?—I did not know anything of it when I came in.

How soon did you know of it?—The next day.

Why did not you apply for a chum-ticket immediately?—Because probably, the prisoners said, they would put me into some of the worst apartments of the prison, and if I could get accommodated a little while, it might be better; I lodged with Mr. Richards for a little while after that.

Why should they put you into one of the worst rooms of the prison?—I do not know, that was what they told me inside.

You stopped till you could make a comfortable arrangement?—Yes; I wished to have a comfortable room.

James Richards was called in, and Examined.

James Richards.

You keep an ordinary in the prison?—Yes.

You negociated some arrangement between Mr. Bowes and Mr. Robinson, about Robinson going into Mr. Bowes's room?—Yes, I did; the room has been fitted in rather an expensive way, and each of the gentlemen who have gone in, has paid for the fixtures on going in.

What passed in making that arrangement?—I merely told Mr. Robinson of it, and Mr. Bowes and I agreed together.

How

James Richards.

How came Robinson to be chummed upon that room?—Mr. Bowes requested it, I believe.

Of whom?—Of the chum-master of course.

Do you know that of your own knowledge?—No, I do not.

Had you any thing to do with the arrangement about the chumming?—No.

Did Mr. Bowes tell you, that he had made the arrangement with the chum-master?—No, I merely introduced Mr. Robinson to Mr. Bowes.

Had you any communication with Mr. Morris on the subject?—No, I never spoke to Mr. Morris on the subject.

Did you make the agreement for Mr. Robinson?—No; I told him what Mr. Bowes had paid for them.

What was that?—About 7 *l.* I think, or between seven and eight pounds.

To whom did Mr. Bowes pay that money?—To a Mr. Silvester, who went out.

Do you know it from any person but Mr. Bowes?—I know Mr. Silvester received that; he was a friend of mine.

Did Silvester put up these things himself?—No; he purchased them of Mr. Humphries.

It is a general practice in the prison?—If a gentleman fits up a room according to his fancy, he sells the fixtures, if not he is entitled to take them away.

Does the marshal interfere in these matters?—Never, to my knowledge.

Do you mean that the chum ticket is not given to the person to come into the room till the arrangement is made?—If a gentleman asks for a chum ticket for a particular room, he will frequently get it.

Supposing there is no agreement of that sort, would any person be chummed upon that room?—I should think so; the person whose turn it is to be chummed.

By what rule do you suppose the chumming takes place?—By seniority; as they apply for chum tickets they get them; I know that to be the case; I unfortunately came in here very much distressed, I did not pay my fees when I came in, I applied for my chum ticket and had it immediately upon the room where I am now.

How long have you been here?—Fourteen months.

Is the ordinary kept in any particular room?—No; the rooms are nearly the same size.

Where is your room?—It is a back-room.

Have you a chum?—Yes; I pay him out.

Do you buy your porter and wine from the coffee-house?—I have my porter from the tap; wine we have very little of; if a gentleman wants wine, he finds it himself.

After a person has fitted up a room in an expensive manner, have you known any instance of a person being chummed upon him, without agreeing with him to pay for the fixtures?—Oh frequently; Mr. Bowes had a person chummed upon him, but that chum was paid out

Do you conceive the chum you now pay out, can come into your room if he pleases?—There is not a doubt of it.

What is the name of that person?—I really cannot tell you his name.

Where is your room?—No. 7 in No. 1.

When did you last pay him?—I paid him this day week; he has been chummed upon me six weeks, I think.

What do you pay him a week?—Five shillings a week; I think his chum ticket was dated Wednesday; I have paid him a week in advance always.

Who fixed the sum you were to pay him?—It is regular; I either let them in, or if I do not want them to come in, I pay them out.

Did that man agree with you for the 5 *s.* before he had the chum ticket?—No; he came and said he had a chum ticket upon me; I asked him whether he would be chummed out, and he said yes.

Has the person who receives a chum ticket upon a room which has been furnished in this way, liberty to say I will not go out, unless you give me 10 *s.* instead of 5 *s.*?—He is at liberty; and I know an instance where a person was chummed upon a room; he wished to come in very much, it was not convenient; he said, if you pay for my lodging I will not come in, and the gentleman in the room paid him 10 *s.* a week.

How long did that continue?—I cannot say, indeed.

James Richards.

Did it continue several weeks?—I believe it did.

Are such instances frequent?—I never knew one before.

Have you known any interference from any person, when a person chummed upon another refused to take 5*s.*?—No, I have not.

The business is always settled between the person in the room, and the man who is chummed upon him?—Yes; I never knew an instance to the contrary; last summer I had a chum upon me; I was very ill; I could not afford to pay him out, and I applied to Mr. Brooshooft concerning it, and he offered to give him a chummage to go into a room; he said that was not what he wanted; he wanted his chum money, he wished to be paid out.

How do you account for persons receiving five shillings for being chummed out and going into lodgings, for which they pay eight, nine and ten shillings a week?—I account for it in this way; if the chummage is paid out, he has no furniture to put into the room; and it would be cheaper for him to pay for lodgings, than to hire furniture for the room.

You mentioned that six or seven guineas was paid to Mr. Bowes by Robinson for his fixtures; have you ever known a higher sum paid for fixtures?—No, I cannot say that I have; that is one room directly over me; I happened to know the three last gentlemen who had been in it.

Are there many rooms in the prison for which fixtures are paid for in that way?—I believe there are many rooms gentlemen have fitted up.

What did you pay when you came into your own?—There were no fixtures in mine; it was entirely empty, except the closet that was in it.

You paid nothing on coming in?—No, not even my gate fees.

Did you pay them afterwards?—I have not paid them up to this time.

If you did not pay your fees at coming in, how can you afford to pay your chum five shillings for going out?—I have two beds in the room, which I let out; and by keeping an ordinary I can get something; if I were to let my chum in, I should not be able to accommodate gentlemen.

Do you take in casual lodgers when they come?—If a gentleman applies for a bed, I take him in.

What do you charge him for the night?—I charge 16*s.* a week; I pay 7*s.* a week myself for the hire of the bed, and I find coals, candles, and every accommodation.

What do you charge for a single night, for the first night for instance?—Three shillings.

You mean for a single bed?—Yes.

Nathan Davis was called in; and Examined.

Nathan Davis.

How long have you been in the prison?—Eight weeks.

Where do you live?—At 5 in 4.

How soon were you chummed?—In about ten days I got a room to myself, No. 5 in 4.

What happened when you came into the prison?—I was obliged to seek a lodging.

At what rate?—About 2*s.* a night.

How soon did you know you were entitled to a chum ticket?—I have heard gentlemen say, that some got it in five days, some in six, some in seven, and so on; I never applied for a room.

Can you say what determines the length of time that would elapse before a person could get a chum ticket?—That I never ascertained.

Till you obtained a chum ticket, did you continue to lodge at the same place?—Yes.

What made you apply for a chum ticket?—A gentleman I got acquainted with, Mr. Lewis, said, as I wished to have my family with me, there was a gentleman of the name of Miller going out, and if I wished to buy the furniture, I could have a chum ticket upon that room; and I purchased the furniture for 6*l.* 10*s.*; but it is worth more.

To whom did you apply for a chum ticket?—To Mr. Morris.

What passed between you and Mr. Morris?—He said I should have a ticket for the room I applied for, No. 5 in 4.

Has a man of the name of Green been chummed in your room?—I have paid a person out of the name of Granger, since I have been there.

Nathan Davis.

Did you give any thing to Mr. Morris?—Not a farthing.

Did you offer any thing?—No, I never offered a farthing; I had the furniture for the money I paid, and it is worth more; Granger is out now, and I am now paying another.

Did Granger ever wish to come in?—No; he said it would be an accommodation to him, if I paid him the five shillings.

You gave no money to Mr. Morris?—No.

Is the Committee to understand you gave him no wine?—No; he never had, directly or indirectly, one drop or morsel from me.

It would be inconvenient to you to have a person come and live in your room?—Yes; I must provide for my family outside, in that case.

What means have you of preventing that?—If they chuse to send in two, I have no means of repelling it.

What family have you with you?—My wife and daughter.

What age is your daughter?—Eighteen.

Is it known to Mr. Brookshooft, or the turnkeys, that your wife and daughter are with you?—I cannot say; by their calling women and children all out, I suppose it is a secret.

By furniture, you mean fixtures?—No; bedstead and furniture, and oil-cloth and carpeting; I could get the money from a broker which I paid for the things; there is not a fixture in the room but the grate, which I am told is found by the marshal.

Are there grates in all the rooms?—I believe there are.

Yours is not a stove?—No, something like a kitchen range.

Ebenezer Davies was called in, and Examined.

Ebenezer Davies.

How long have you been in the prison?—Since the 22d of October.

You live in No. 2 in 3?—Yes.

How soon did you get a chum ticket?—I believe it was a month before I got it.

What became of you when you first came into the prison?—I went to Chillingworth; he charged me 30 *s.* a week.

You lodged there?—Yes; I told him I could not afford it, and he reduced it to a guinea.

Were you aware you had a right to a chum ticket when you came in?—No.

How soon did you find that out?—I think it was a fortnight.

How did you find it out at last?—They spoke of Morris; I asked what Morris was, they said he was the master chum.

What was the arrangement you made to get the room?—A friend of mine applied, and said, "Mr. Morris, you should give this young man a chum ticket, I will make him comfortable;" and he applied five or six times.

How came you to have a chum ticket upon the particular room you are now in?—I have no particular room; there was a butcher there before me; he was discharged.

Did not your chum ticket tell you what room you were to go to?—Yes.

How came you to have it for that particular room?—That I cannot say.

What did you pay the person going out?—Nothing.

Did you not buy his furniture?—No, there was nothing in the room but bugs, and all manner of vermin, as full as ever it could hold; I never saw such a place in my life; I laid out money upon it, in consequence of the dirt.

You paid nothing for the room?—No.

Nor your friend?—No.

Did you give anything to Morris, in order to get that chum ticket?—No; my friend gave him something at the time, whether a bottle of wine or what, I do not know.

How do you know he gave him anything?—Because he told me so.

What is your friend's name?—George Singleton.

Is he in the prison?—No, he lives in the city.

What is he?—He is my accountant, settling my affairs, and collecting my debts.

Where does he live in the city?—No. 8, in Bucklersbury.

Are you a bankrupt?—No; I am going to take the benefit of the Act.

Ebenezer Davies.

You have furnished your room?—Yes, I have.

Do you conceive you have the means of selling your furniture to the person who succeeds you?—No; I conceive not.

You will have the means of taking it away?—Yes, I believe that is allowed.

Have you a chum upon you?—Yes, he is in the room; there are gentlemen who buy furniture, or they can hire furniture, if they please.

Mr. *Robert Davey* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. Robert Davey.

You keep the coffee-house in the King's Bench prison?—I do.

How long have you kept it?—I have kept it twelve years come next Michaelmas.

On what terms do you hold it?—I rent it of Mr. Jones; I pay Mr. Jones 40*l.* a quarter; the person who lived in it before I took it was of the name of Brown, she was quite an invalid, and was very much in debt; she was under the necessity of quitting it; she was struck with a paralytic stroke, and I agreed to give her 20*l.* a year, which I have done up to the present time; she is still alive.

Did Mr. Jones know of that?—It was under the direction of Mr. Jones; I lived with Mr. Jones, and I lived with Mr. Walker before Mr. Jones came here, as a domestic; I lived with them twenty years.

What accommodations have you besides the coffee-house?—We have two rooms in No. 10 staircase, as an accommodation to gentlemen.

What rooms have you in the coffee-house?—There are five lodging rooms in the coffee-house, including those of my family.

What rooms do you let?—I occupy three rooms myself; then I have four to let, including the two other rooms I have.

You sometimes let one of your own?—Yes; sometimes; when gentlemen come in, they beg and pray that I will let them have a room, and I have sat up myself and let them have my own room, for when gentlemen come in there is no place for them to come to; there are no rooms appropriated to them which have any furniture in them; these rooms are only to accommodate gentlemen till they get rooms and furniture in any part of the prison; they come in sometimes in term time thirty in an evening, between the hours of seven and ten.

What do they pay a night?—A guinea a week, three shillings a night; from fourteen shillings to a guinea; sometimes in the latter part of the year, when we are very slack, we take any little we can get, I sometimes have let them for two shillings a night; the most part of our business is done in about four months in the year; in the vacation gentlemen get provided with rooms; they have an opportunity, those who stay, of bringing in their own furniture, and then we are empty.

What do you let them at when they are dearest?—Three shillings a night, or a guinea a week.

Supposing a person comes into the prison at nine o'clock at night, what is the greatest sum you have ever asked for his bed?—When I have given up my own room, I have at the rate of a guinea and a half, but I never have charged more than three shillings a night for it; I have let them for two shillings a night.

You do not keep the tap?—No.

Do the persons who lodge in this way board at the coffee-house?—Exactly so.

Is it a part of the agreement, that those who lodge with you should board with you?—It is; if it was not I could not pay my rent; it costs me for coals and candles in the course of a year 100*l.* independent of the rent I pay; there are three large fires I am obliged to keep from the beginning of October to the latter end of April, and very good fires too; it costs me not less than twenty-five chaldrons of coals in the course of a year.

Have you five chambers only in the coffee-house?—Only five.

And two on a staircase?—Yes.

Of the five in the coffee-house you occupy three, and have two to let?—Yes, and one in the slip, merely the breadth of the staircase.

Where are those two rooms you have?—Twenty in 10, and 30 in 10; they have been attached to the coffee-house ever since I have known the King's Bench.

Are there not seven rooms over the coffee-house?—No there are not, there are only five rooms you can call bed-rooms.

What

Mr. Robert Davey.

What are there besides?—There are no such thing as seven, the one is only a small closet; the doors are all numbered; No. 6, which some of the Committee have seen, is the furthest.

Does it hold a bed?—It holds a little bit of a stump bedstead, where we can occasionally put a person.

Do you, or do you not, put beds in those two additional rooms, for which occasionally you get 3*s.* a night?—No, never, that is for my own family.

Out of the rooms you have in the coffee-house, you reserve three for your own family?—Yes.

What number beyond those three have you to let, and which you do occasionally let?—I let two rooms in the coffee-room.

And no more than the two?—No other than my own room; there is a double bedded room, No. 4.

What is the largest sum per week you ever asked of persons, for letting your room to them?—A guinea and a half.

What is the largest sum you ask for a night?—Three shillings.

You have never asked more, unless in case of quitting your own bed?—No, never.

For what do you let per night the bed in that room you let at a guinea and a half per week?—I never let that by the night; if a gentleman takes it, he has it by the week.

You said you could not let the rooms at the price you do, unless you furnished provisions also?—Yes.

Have you any particular rates at which you charge those gentlemen for the provisions you furnish, do you agree with them by the week or the day?—No; all the gentlemen that are there breakfast as they please, at what hour they please, and dine as they like, and have nothing but what they please.

You make your bill the same as any coffee-house keeper would?—Yes; going as low as we can.

Are there any rules in the prison, as to what you should charge?—No; we charge 2*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* 9*d.* for a plain dinner.

How do you secure your payment?—I generally send in their bills every morning to those lodging in the coffee-room.

Unless you are paid per day, or feel certain that the person is able to pay, you would not trust him further?—I cannot say that, for I lose a great deal of money frequently; I have some hundreds of pounds upon my books at this very time.

Have you any general rule, as to the length of time for which you would trust a person who does not pay regularly?—No, we have not; it rests with myself whether I will give them credit or not; but of course, if a gentleman takes a bed, and pays for his bed, I give him credit for a week, and sometimes I have given credit to the extent of 30*l.* 40*l.* or 50*l.* and have lost it.

Have you a waiter at the coffee-room, of the name of Duffell?—Yes.

Is he a prisoner?—I believe so, as far as I know.

How long has he been with you?—I believe ever since last October.

Has he ever been with you before?—Yes, he has.

When?—It may have been nearly a twelvemonth before.

What is the earliest time he came to you?—I cannot tell.

Was it the October preceding?—I cannot say, indeed; the books will shew.

Upon what books will it appear?—Upon the marshal's books, I presume.

Was he a prisoner at the time he came to you before?—Yes, he was.

And he was again a prisoner when he came last October?—I look upon it as such; but there are numbers of persons come in on friendly actions; I cannot say as to that, indeed.

Do you believe he came in on a friendly action?—I really do not know.

What character had you with him when he came the last time?—I had no particular character with him.

How came you to take him?—Because he was a man very well adapted for my business.

How did you know that?—He had been in here before.

Do you know where he had been in the interval?—He had been at Vauxhall Gardens; he was a tinman.

Do not you believe it is his practice to be a waiter at Vauxhall Gardens?—He was never a waiter; he was a tinman, and had the care of the lamps.

Mr. Robert Davey.

Do not you know that he trims the lamps at Vauxhall Gardens in the summer; and that he gets a friendly action, and comes into the King's Bench in the winter?—That I do not know.

How many winters has he been with you?—Two winters.

Has he come in the same way each time?—It is impossible for me to know that.

Have you hired him for any time certain?—No; I have not hired him for any time certain.

Do you know whether he has a room in the prison?—He had one; I do not know whether he has one now.

To himself?—Paying his chum out, I suppose.

Did he sleep at your house?—No; we have no room in our house for the waiters; we close our doors at eleven o'clock.

Do you know whether he sleeps in the prison?—Certainly.

Do you know whether he lets his room or not?—I dare say he does; for the generality of the waiters do, and gentlemen are very glad to be accommodated. If there were not these sort of rooms, I do not know what we should do for gentlemen, when they come in in term time.

Do you know whether the furniture in the room belongs to him?—That I really do not know.

Have you been in his room?—No, I never was in his room.

What wines do you sell?—Port, sherry, and madeira.

Any claret?—I believe I have three bottles of claret; but that is a thing we may keep for a considerable time; I have had claret, but I have not bought any for three years; for it is a dead article, and I get nothing by it.

There is no prohibition against the sale of claret?—No.

You can have any wines you please?—Yes.

Do you pay any profit to the marshal on each dozen of wine you sell?—No; I could not pay my rent if I did.

You pay nothing to the marshal but the 40*l.* a quarter?—Yes, and the 20*l.* a year to the former occupier.

The 20*l.* a year is bonâ fide paid to the old woman?—Yes.

Do many people sleep in the coffee-house upon the benches?—No; that is never allowed in the coffee-room.

Do you conceive that if you had not the two rooms you have in the prisons you would be able to pay your 160*l.* a year to the marshal?—No.

For what do you let your two rooms in the prison?—A guinea a week each, and one is a small room, only the width of the staircase.

Each of your rooms in the prison is let for a guinea a week?—Yes.

Is the coffee-room locked up of a night?—Yes, at eleven o'clock; if we kept it open after that, there would be nothing but riot.

How many beds have you to let over the coffee-room?—Three beds.

How many beds are there in the state-room, which you do not let by the night?—There is only one bed there.

Have you tenants for your rooms, the best part of the year?—No; sometimes for three months we have none at all.

You never have any persons chummed upon those two rooms you have in the prison?—No.

What do you make per year of your rooms?—That it is impossible to say.

Do you mean that your rooms are ever vacant?—Yes; frequently after an Insolvent Debtors Act there are spare rooms in the prison; that was the case the latter end of last summer.

Are your rooms in the prison full now?—Yes, they are.

What do you receive from the lodgers in your two rooms in the prison now?—A guinea a week for each.

For the rooms, or for the beds?—For the whole.

You find furniture?—Yes, for all the rooms.

Do you receive a guinea a week from each person having a bed in the double bedded room?—A guinea a week from each.

You receive two guineas a week for that?—Yes, when we let it.

Is there much drinking going on at your coffee-house?—No great deal, except it is porter; there is a great deal of porter drank in the smoking room.

Do the prisoners often drink so as to be in a state of intoxication?—Sometimes they do, but not very often.

Mr. Robert Davey.

Is there any restriction as to the quantity of liquor any person may have?—No, there is not.

Of course it is your object to sell as much as you can?—Undoubtedly it is; if a gentleman wants a bottle of wine, perhaps he has it at his own room.

Do you sell a great quantity?—No; not very large.

James Duffell was called in, and Examined.

James Duffell.

Are you a prisoner in the Bench now?—No.

How long is it since you were a prisoner here?—About eight or nine months.

Do you sleep in the prison at night?—Yes.

Where do you sleep?—At 17 in 10; I have half a room there.

Are you chummed upon that room?—Yes.

How did you get that chummage?—Mr. Morris told me to go to that room; I had no ticket given me; the room was empty when I went there.

Is there any person there now?—Yes.

Is he chummed upon it?—Yes.

To whom does the furniture belong?—Some of it to me, and part of it to the other.

Does he live in the room?—No; he is paid out.

What passed between you and Morris at the time you got the room?—I was coming in to live at the coffee-house; I had been away about six or seven months, wanting a situation; I came and offered myself; Mr. Morris told me there was a part of a room for the present, and I have still remained there.

Do you mean that Mr. Morris gave you that half room as an act of kindness and favour?—Yes.

When did this happen?—I think the beginning of October.

Was the prison full at that time?—No; there were several empty rooms at that time.

The prison was very full in December last?—Yes.

Did Mr. Morris ever mention to you the necessity of your giving up your room at that time?—No.

Did you let your room at that time?—Yes; I had one or two lodgers in the room.

What did they pay you?—Sometimes 14*s.* or 15*s.* a week, sometimes a guinea.

Did you sleep in the room yourself at the same time?—Yes.

You are sure you are not a prisoner?—I certainly am not a prisoner.

Had you the same room when you were a prisoner here?—No.

Did you ask Morris for the room, or did he offer it you?—I asked him for it; he said he would give me half a room.

Was there any person chummed upon it when you took it?—Yes.

Did Morris know you were not a prisoner?—Yes.

You have let that room to one or two persons at from 15*s.* a week to a guinea a week?—Yes; 15*s.* 16*s.* or 18*s.* a week.

How many persons have you had in that room, who have paid you those prices?—Never more than two people at a time; sometimes they have paid me 14*s.* or 15*s.* a week each, and out of it I have found coals and candles, and my wife has waited upon them.

Is your wife lodging in the room?—No; lodging outside.

Is this considered as part of your wages?—I have no wages.

There was no person in the room when you took possession of it?—No; the room was empty.

Do you know what day of the week it was you took possession of it?—No; I cannot say.

All that you receive from your lodgers in this room, you consider yourself entitled to?—Yes.

You do not account for the money you receive, to anybody?—No; I do not.

Do you know whether it has been the custom for persons filling your situation as waiter at the coffee-house, to have a room in the prison?—Yes; when I was a prisoner here I had.

Do you pay the shilling a week, or do the persons living in it pay that?—I pay it.

Did

James Duffell.

Did you pay a shilling a week from October to the end of the year?—Yes.

What do you pay the person who is chummed out?—Five shillings a week.

Do you conceive he has a right to come in, if he pleases?—Yes; but he had rather have the 5*s.* a week than come into the room, he has no furniture, and he sleeps with a friend.

You are paid for waiting at the coffee-house by the persons who eat and drink, and lodge there?—Yes; whatever they chuse to give me.

The same as other waiters are?—Yes.

Should you, in point of fact, consider your emoluments sufficient for you to remain in the prison, if you had not the advantage of this room?—Oh dear no; if I had not that room I should not get enough to find me in victuals.

In that case you would expect to be paid wages by the coffee-house keeper?—Yes; at present it just procures me enough to maintain my wife and three children.

Do not you eat at the coffee-house?—No, I find my own living; I have no wages or living.

Joseph Moore Greening was called in, and Examined.

J. M. Greening.

How long have you been in the King's Bench prison?—Three years the second of last February.

You have a situation called racket-master?—Yes.

How long have you held that?—A part of the ground I held from the 22d of last April, and the other part which makes the whole of the ground, I held from last September.

Of whom do you hold it?—In consequence of the person's misbehaviour who held it; he was sent to Horsemonger Lane; through his friends, he discharged himself from the prison, with a view to get out of Horsemonger Lane; and Mr. Brooshooft knowing I had been a prisoner of long standing, and had a young family, gave me the other half.

How did you get the first half?—I gave the man who left the place a small compliment for the share of it; but without the consent or privity of any third person.

What profit do you make of it?—I have never made an estimate of it; but I am enabled to keep my family.

In what manner do you receive pay for the ground?—I put in two balls, for which I pay three-pence halfpenny; I pay a boy a halfpenny for running after the balls; I find the boy and rackets, and I charge sixpence a game; but some persons are so ill principled they will not pay.

No person would play on that ground without your permission?—Yes? they have a right to play so many games; any prisoner demanding to play is privileged to do it, if he finds his own rackets and balls; but if he has played with mine, and owes me as much money as amounts to a rub, I can refuse to let him play a second time, on the score of his not having paid his first debt.

Can any prisoner at any time with his own rackets and balls, play at your ground?—I always considered it so; but it is generally understood it is a privilege to the racket-master, and very few attempt to do it; but if they think our behaviour is not as it ought to be, they hold out that threat to us, and I have had it realised; when I have refused to put balls for persons I would not trust, they have found balls, and occupied the ground without my consent.

Do persons not prisoners play at racket?—Yes.

Do persons come into the prison for the purpose of playing at racket?—Yes, occasionally; but it is not a common practice, I conceive.

What is the value of your situation as racket-master, if persons can play without your permission?—It is of no further value than as custom has established the thing; if they were to persist in it, we could not prevent their playing.

Very few prisoners find balls and rackets of their own?—Generally speaking, none.

They cannot play upon this ground without paying, unless they find their own balls and rackets?—No.

Is there not a point of honour within the prison, amounting to a custom, that no person shall play at that racket-ground without paying you?—Yes, I have always understood it so, and I look upon it as such.

J. M. Greening.

And it being understood as such, constitutes your profit?—Yes, and it constitutes a privilege to me; for it enables me to support myself, and the surplus I give to my family.

Do you not, in point of fact, stay here as a prisoner, solely for the purpose of keeping that racket-ground?—I assure you I do not; 400*l.* is the extent of my debts.

Did you apply to Mr. Brooshooft, or did he select you from the rest?—I applied to Mr. Morris; at the time of the ground being given me, Mr. Brooshooft was not in the way; when the man left the prison on the Friday afternoon, I immediately took possession of the ground, and went up to the gate, and applied for permission to take possession of the whole of it; and they gave me a promise, after ascertaining the time I had been in prison, that my case should be laid before Mr. Brooshooft; and he confirmed me in it.

Of whom did you take the remainder of the ground?—I took it by Mr. Brooshooft's gift solely, for which I never gave one single penny.

Is it customary in the prison, for the racket grounds to be taken from one prisoner to another, upon the payment of a sum of money?—I believe it is customary.

You paid something for the first portion of the ground?—I did.

For the latter half you paid nothing?—Not a halfpenny.

How many racket masters are there in the prison?—There are four grounds, and I think, to the best of my recollection, there are six racket masters.

Are there any other grounds, called skittle grounds?—There is a skittle ground, but I do not know anything more of it, than that it is a skittle ground.

Do you believe that to be taken in the same way as your racket ground is?—That is a question I cannot answer.

What are the names of the racket masters?—Bundock, Brice, and Harris or Harrison; they have one between them, the top racket ground; Popplestone holds one half; I do not know the other person's name.

Have you a chum in your room?—Yes, of the name of Gullan; and this morning I had a ticket brought to me of the name of Partridge.

What is become of Gullan?—I paid him his money last week; and I believe he is still in the prison.

You have had another person of the name of Partridge chummed upon you today?—Yes.

Does Gullan live in the room with you?—No, he does not.

Do you occupy the whole of the room?—I have, while he was my chum; but I rather think he is chummed upon a room with some other person, and that he is going into it; I conclude so, from having another put upon me.

Is your family living with you?—No.

Do you occupy the whole yourself?—I occupy it myself; but I let out a part of my bed.

You let lodgings?—Yes.

When a chum is put upon you, is it done without speaking to you, in the first instance?—Yes, if a person applies for his chum ticket, they refer to the book, and see where they suppose they have a right to send a second or third chum, as the case may be, and send it accordingly.

You have paid out your chum constantly?—Yes.

What do you pay him?—I have constantly paid him five shillings.

What do you let your lodgings for?—Sometimes I have got as much as 14*s.* per week, then I find them every thing; I am perhaps servant to them as well as find linen and bedding, and cook for them, and do every thing to make them comfortable.

Did you pay any thing to the person who had your room before you?—Not one penny; I was strictly ordered not at the time I came, and was told, that if I paid any thing I should be deprived of it.

Who told you that?—Mr. Morris; I believe both the room and the ground were given to me in consideration of my having a family, and having been long here.

Were you long here before you got the room?—I think about a fortnight before I got the room I am now in.

Then how could the room be given you in consideration of your having been long here?—I had been in the rules.

Stephen

Stephen Brice was called in, and Examined.

Stephen Brice.

How long have you been in the King's Bench prison?—I have been here going on a twelvemonth.

Where do you lodge?—At 8 in 4.

Do you keep a racket ground?—Part of one only.

Who is your partner?—Harrison.

How long have you held that racket ground?—I have had it ever since the middle of December.

What did you pay for it?—I paid only for the rackets belonging to it; I bought the rackets, and we have the privilege of the ground.

Who gave you the privilege?—The man who had it before me.

Had you any communication with Mr. Morris or Mr. Brooshooft about it? Not the least.

The man who went away appointed you to it?—Yes; the rackets generally go from one to another.

Did the person who went away appoint you racket-master in his room?—Yes.

He appointed you in consequence of your purchasing the rackets he had to sell?—Yes.

What did you give him for the rackets?—Six pounds or six guineas.

How many rackets did you receive for your six pounds or six guineas?—Four.

Was that the first cost of the rackets do you conceive?—I gave more than the value of them.

What do you conceive to be the real value of the rackets, if they are new? If they are new they are worth a guinea a piece.

How many had you?—Four.

And you gave six pounds or six guineas?—Yes.

Do you mean that the transfer of the racket ground was made to you, without the knowledge of Mr. Brooshooft or Mr. Morris?—Yes.

Part of the six guineas you gave you considered as a consideration for the ground?—Yes.

Do you expect to sell the privilege of the ground in the same way, when you go out?—They never sell the ground, they sell the rackets.

If you pay more than the value of the rackets, you pay for something else?—That is our own fault.

You state that the value of the rackets, if new, would not be more than four pounds, but that you gave six guineas, and that you considered part as a consideration for the privilege of the ground?—Yes.

Do you expect to sell your rackets for more than the value, and by that means to get a consideration for the privilege of the ground?—No, I should not like to charge more than the value of them.

Do you mean, that when you go out of the ground, you will not charge six guineas for them, nor more than four pounds?—Yes.

If you were to be discharged from the prison to-morrow, what would you ask for those rackets?—I should ask four pounds or thereabouts.

Should you ask it of anybody you selected, or put them up to auction?—It depends on whether a person would like to take them by agreement.

Would you select any person, or put them up by auction?—I cannot say.

Should you think you had the power of nominating a racket master, as you took to it yourself?—According as I took to it, I should think so, but I cannot say.

Have you known any racket master changed since you have been in the prison?—Yes.

Otherwise than by the prisoner going away?—Only in consequence of that.

Not changed for ill conduct?—Not at all.

Had you any communication with Mr. Morris or Mr. Brooshooft, or any person in the prison, in respect of your succession to the racket ground?—No, not at all.

What do you charge the persons who play?—We give them two new balls, which cost us twopence a piece, and pay a boy a halfpenny for looking after the game, and we charge sixpence, so that we get three halfpence.

Do you change the ball every game?—Yes, some of those strong players will use four balls in a game, then they pay for the extra balls.

Stephen Brice.

Did Harrison pay you anything for his half of the racket ground?—No, he bought his before I had mine.

Does any person play without paying you?—Sometimes they come and play in the morning.

Would you consider yourself authorized in preventing any one playing there without your permission?—No.

Do you mean to say, that any persons may play without paying you, when gentlemen paying you would play?—If they play they must play with their own balls, not with ours.

Do they, in point of fact, ever play with their own balls or rackets?—No, I never saw it.

Should not you think yourself authorized to interfere to prevent any persons who would not pay you playing, when persons who would pay you wanted to play?—Indeed I cannot say.

The thing has never occurred, and therefore you do not know how you should act if it did?—Just so.

What do you mean by being racket master, if you can only let a person play with your rackets, as they may with any body else's?—I cannot say indeed.

No person has ever attempted to play upon your ground without your authority?—No.

You have a family?—No; I have a wife.

Who is your chum?—Baker.

Does he live in the room with you?—No; he is paid out; the man has no furniture, and is not able to hire it.

What do you give him?—Five shillings.

Do you let lodgings?—Sometimes I let part of my bed.

Does your wife live with you in the prison?—No; she lets lodgings outside.

What do you charge?—I generally leave it to gentlemen to give me what they think proper.

What do they pay you?—Some more and some less.

What is the largest sum and the smallest sum they pay you per week?—One shilling a night, some two, and some three shillings.

If a person does not give you so much for the first night as you think right, you do not let him stay a second?—It is merely accommodation; if they are gentlemen who wish to be comfortably accommodated, perhaps they will make a handsome present.

Do many persons come to play with prisoners at the racket-ground who are not prisoners?—Yes.

Does it often occur?—Yes.

Every day?—Yes, more or less.

If disputes occur at the racket ground is it left to you to determine?—It is always left to the marker.

That is yourself?—Yes.

You are paid sixpence a game?—Yes.

Are not you paid for marking besides the sixpence?—No.

What do you imagine you gain per day by the racket ground?—Sometimes we get two or three shillings, sometimes we are obliged to trust them.

What do you suppose you gain in a year?—I do not know; I have not had it long enough; I have had it the worst of the time.

What have you gained during the last week?—Not more than a couple of shillings, I believe.

David Harrison was called in, and Examined.

David Harrison.

How long have you been in the prison?—I am in my ninth month.

How long have you been racket master?—I think the latter end of November or beginning of December.

How did you become so?—I found a person wished to decline, Mr. Kent, and I got him to be kind enough to speak to Mr. Brooshooft in my behalf, to make interest for me to have his part of the ground which he held.

How much did you pay for it?—I did not give any thing in consideration.

What did you pay for the rackets?—I was obliged to purchase them; they cost me 20*s*.

Did

David Harrison.

Did you purchase them of Mr. Kent?—No; he had not any but what he borrowed himself; I was obliged to purchase my own.

Did you give nothing to Mr. Kent?—No.

Nor to any other person?—No.

What did your stock of rackets cost?—About thirty shillings, or a guinea and a half, my four cost.

Were they new?—No; I bought them second hand; the new would cost me from ten to fifteen shillings, according to their quality; there is a great deal of difference in their quality.

Who are you partner with?—A person of the name of Stephen Brice; he has it one day and I have it another.

Where do you live?—At 4 in 15.

The person you succeeded engaged to solicit Mr. Brooshooft that you should obtain the racket ground?—Yes.

Do you know whether he did so solicit?—I solicited myself; I sent my wife up, not having the liberty of coming up myself, at least I did not make the attempt to come up myself so far; I did not know whether it would be allowed.

Is not Mr. Brooshooft in the prison every day?—Very frequently I see him in; but we cannot always meet with him, unless we know he is coming.

Did you ask Mr. Brooshooft yourself?—I sent my wife, and he directly afterwards came and gave me the use of the ground.

Did he himself give you leave?—Yes, he did.

Do you think, that without such a permission from Mr. Brooshooft, you should have had a right on the permission of Mr. Kent to take possession?—No, by no means.

Have you a chum in your room?—Yes.

Do you pay him out?—No; he is in the room.

Do you pay your shilling a week regularly?—Yes.

Have you paid it the last two or three weeks?—I cannot tell; my chum is a tailor, he is constantly at home, and I am not; sometimes he makes a demand upon me of two or three shillings for rent.

Does it ever run in arrears six or seven shillings at a time?—No, not to the best of my knowledge.

Do you know that Mr. Brice had applied to Mr. Brooshooft, for his appointment to his share of the racket ground?—No, I do not.

He never told you that he had or had not?—No; he is a very close man; he never makes his affairs known.

Do you believe, from your knowledge of the practice within the prison, that any person could get possession of a racket ground, or half a racket ground, without the permission of Mr. Brooshooft or the marshal of the prison?—No, I do not suppose he could.

Do you and Brice divide your profits equally, or take what you get each in alternate days?—We have done it both ways; sometimes I have taken it one day and he another; at another time, I have attended two or three days, and he has attended the two or three following days.

What do you charge?—We find balls, which cost us three-pence halfpenny; then we find them rackets and whitening, and pay a boy for his attendance so much a game; the whitening and the boy amounts to about a penny a game; it takes near a halfpenny for whitening, and we charge them sixpence.

Has any person a right to play there without paying you?—Yes; if they find their own rackets and balls, they have a right.

Do they ever come and play?—Yes; we have been obstructed by them several times.

Supposing a person chuses to come to your racket ground, and find rackets and balls?—Then there would be no person to attend them.

If any other person had rackets and balls and a boy to attend, could he take possession of your racket ground, and let persons come there?—No; not to take possession of it and let persons come there; whoever is the person who takes possession of it, he might play himself and then make way for another.

What right do you suppose you gained by applying to Mr. Brooshooft?—I do not know indeed.

May not any other person come with their rackets?—They may if they please.

Could

David Harrison.

Could not you have done all you do now, without applying to Mr. Brooshooft?--I could; so far as going to play when I chose, but nothing further.

Why not?—We consider it as given to us, as a kind of subsistence; I have been here nine months, and am likely to stay a good while longer.

What do you get by it, if you cannot prevent any person playing without paying you?—We cannot prevent it; but there are very few will act in so ungentlemanlike a manner as to play without paying me.

Does it happen once a month that persons do play without paying?—Yes; every day if it is a fair day, they will play without paying.

Are there many persons in the prison who have rackets of their own?—Yes; twenty or thirty people have them; and they may bring a boy with them if they like; but then they are not satisfied; unless they have what they call the scorer, to call the game for them, they cannot tell how the game is going.

Edward Lamb was called in, and Examined.

Edward Lamb.

Where are you chummed?—In No. 8 in 8; Lewis is chummed upon me.

Does Lewis pay you out?—Yes.

You get your 5*s.* a week from him?—Yes; and I pay 5*s.* for my lodging.

Then the difference is, that you get furniture?—Yes.

How many are there in the room you lodge in?—Six.

When you came into the prison, had you a chum ticket given you immediately?—No; I had to stop some time for it.

Did you know any person in the prison?—No.

What became of you?—I was carried into the coffee-house.

Where did you sleep the first night?—At the same place I do now.

Were you chummed immediately on 8 in 12?—No; I took a lodging there; I have been chummed twice since I came into the prison.

How came you to change your chummage?—The first person could not pay, and they chummed me upon a fresh place.

Upon whom were you chummed at first?—I was chummed upon Thomas Bell, at No. 2 in 13.

At what time were you so chummed upon him?—On the 14th of June last.

He paid you 5*s.* a week?—He did not the whole time.

He did at first?—Yes.

He ceased after a time?—Yes; but they would not let me go into that room with him; I would have gone in, but they would not let me go in when he could not pay.

Who would not let you go in?—Mr. Morris.

Did you go to demand the money?—Yes; and when he said, he could not pay me, I said, I would go in; and Mr. Morris said, No, he would give me a ticket on a fresh place; and the person I was chummed on next, Mr. Sewell, did not pay me as he ought to do. I was chummed upon that room on the 29th of July last; this person, who was a quaker, said he had purchased the room by the leave of Mr. Brooshooft. I went on Thursday evening, to the best of my recollection, and asked him to pay me; he said he would not, he had bought the room by leave of Mr. Brooshooft; and I took the room, and handed him out, saying, I had as much right to the room as he. I was called up before Mr. Brooshooft, to shew the reason why I struck at him; he complained I struck at him, but I did not; I told him, the reason I went into my room was, I had got no pay for near a fortnight, and I thought I had a right to do so. Mr. Brooshooft asked him if I struck at him, and he said I did; I told him I did not, that I had been differently brought up, though I was put into a prison. I told them so far as this, that if he was agreeable to pay, I had no objection; but that if not, I would go in, and that he might put four or five in, if he liked; and that I had no doubt I should do as well as they. I went back to prison, and they paid the whole of the money up, when they could do no better; but I was not well treated, they might have as well paid me at first.

How came you to have a fresh chummage ticket?—Because Mr. Bell could not pay, and would not let me go in.

How did you get from that room?—They had sold it backwards and forwards, with leave of Mr. Brooshooft.

How came you to be chummed elsewhere?—I was never at Mr. Sewell's room; I was

Edward Lamb.

I was chummed there, and they did not pay me, and so I was for going in, and I was called up about it; they would have given me a room to myself, but I would not have it.

They have paid you regularly ever since?—Yes, they have.

In what part of the prison do you live?—At 8 in 12, at the back of the prison.

Were you much annoyed by the heaps of filth and dirt that were before your door?—Yes, there was a very bad smell indeed, during the whole of the last summer.

When were those heaps of dirt cleaned away?—Perhaps about a fortnight since they were cleaned away.

Before the last fortnight in which they have been taken away, when were they cleaned before?—They were cleaned part every day; but instead of being two there was only one man; he was a very laborious man; I understood there were two of them, but that one of them did the business.

If the back of the prison was cleaned every day, how could there be heaps of dirt?—It was laid against the wall in a row, and the dunghills were smoking all the last summer.

You mean that the staircases were swept just by the door and under the windows, and the dirt heaped up against the wall?—No, I never saw the front on the flags cleaned till of late, when the Committee were coming in; there was never a staircase cleaned, unless the people chose to do it themselves.

Not the last year?—No, not since June, when I came in.

How often are the tubs of urine taken way?—I really cannot tell, some persons throw them out; I have had it thrown upon me, when I have been walking on the back of the prison.

Do persons empty their chamber-pots out of the window?—All sorts of slops.

Is there any rule in the prison about throwing out slops?—I do not know of any.

Mr. *Christopher Morris* was again called in.

Christopher Morris.

Since yesterday, the Committee observe two persons are chummed in the room occupied by Gore, Mrs. Mills, and Mrs. Bullen?—Yes.

Is that the woman who had been chummed with Mrs. Rawlings?—No; she had not been chummed before; she only came in three or four days ago; I have made a woman's room of it.

What is become of Knowles?—I have chummed him to a man's room.

Who is chummed with Mrs. Rawlings?—Mrs. Gayton.

She is an elderly woman?—Yes.

Is she a sober woman?—I have heard it said that she drinks.

In No. 14 in 1, there is only one person charged, Mr. Dunn?—That is because his chum is gone out, he is discharged; his name was Underwood.

When did he go out?—About ten days ago.

Mr. Soane has no chum?—His chum went out on Monday last.

Mr. Lewis?—Doctor Lewis is committed here by the Court, he has been here two or three years.

He has not paid anything for some time?—He has not paid the last up.

Has he paid anything since the beginning of the year?—No, he has not.

Why did not you chum upon him?—Because of his being here so long, and being committed by the Court.

You have informed the Committee you make no difference on account of their being committed by the Court?—I have been told that it does make a difference.

Had Mr. Lewis any chum upon him in the month of December last, when the prison was so full?—No, he had not.

Did not you inform the Committee the other day, that you had occasionally chummed persons upon men who were committed by the Court?—I have done that certainly.

What was the reason why you did not do it in December last, when the prison was so full?—Because it was objected to; we had a person here by the name of M'Rae, I chummed two upon him and he would not let them in, nor pay them neither, and I did not know how to go on.

Did you tell Mr. Brooshooft of this?—Yes.

What

Christopher Morris.

What did Mr. Brooshooft say?—He was taken off.

Do you mean to say, that if they will not pay nor let them in, you remove them?—Yes; and we chum another in.

There is Mr. Stephens, No. 1 in 2.?—He has been here two or three years, and he is very much distressed, and that is the reason.

How long has he been without a chum upon him?—Six months I dare say.

Has he been twelve months?—No, I believe not; he has a family.

Do his family live with him?—A wife and child.

Has he had any chum since July last?—No.

What reason was there, when the prison was so very full, that that room had no person but him?—It was done to favour him, because he was so poor.

Was his being poor a reason why no person should live in the room with him?—He did not like to have any person with him; it was certainly very wrong.

At 14 in 3, there is Mr. Hoskins?—That is the Post Office; he has been here two-and-thirty years; he has been very ill; he has not had any for the last nine months, I dare say.

Has he had any chum since July last?—No, he has not; he has been very lame, and could not walk.

How long has Manning been without a chum?—He has not had one for these six months; that is a man brought out of the country, for felony; he ran away from the tipstaff; he is here only on a warrant of felony; he was here for two actions of debt, and there is now a warrant holding him.

Is his debt compromised, and is he superseded?—Both the actions of debt are compromised.

Manning has had no chum since July last?—No.

Has he paid anything?—No.

Were his debts discharged in July last?—Yes, I believe so.

How comes it Miss Rogers has no chum?—Because she is so very ill; so very nervous and bad, she is not fit to have any person with her.

Has she had any chum since July last?—She has had none during all that time; she faints away.

Has there been any person in the room to take care of her?—There has been an old woman backwards and forwards with her.

Who is that old woman?—I do not know her name.

Does she sleep in the room with her?—No.

At No. 7 in 6, was there any chum with Wright, from July last to the end of the year?—That is the room belonging to the chum master; the room we have between us three.

Was there anybody with Davis from July to the end of the year?—Davis and Manning were together, but they were removed to the room opposite.

Davis had the room 2 in 6, from July to the end of the year?—Yes.

And he paid nothing?—No.

Why had he?—Because he was so distressed.

Is that a reason why they should have a room without paying?—I wish to do what I can to oblige them; they bore us into it.

Had Mrs. Frederickson a chum from July to the end of the year?—I dare say she had not.

Had Myers, at 2 in 7?—No; he is committed for 18 months by the Court.

Jovis, 16^{o} *die Martij*, 1815.

At the Marshal's House:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

IS No. 10 stair-case, on the poor side or the master's side?—On the master's side.

Christopher Morris.

Mrs. Abbey, in No. 22 in 10, has had no chum since December last, according to your book; what is the reason of that?—That is a slip; she has been here for ten months, and has had that ever since she has been here.

What is Wright?—He was a baker; but the other baker has it after him.

He has No. 4 also, in that stair-case?—It is Marsh's, the crier's room.

Wright is not chummed upon that room now?—No, he is out of it; this Wright is the baker.

Is it the same Wright?—No.

There is a person of the name of Stelman in No. 16?—That is a slip; it is a very little room.

No. 15, Mrs. Thornley appears to have no chum?—That is a very small room; she has four children; one blind, one decrepit, and one cannot speak; that is the reason she has had no chum.

In No. 14 there is no chum on Easton?—Old Mr. Easton's chum is just gone out; he is a very old prisoner, and he has not a chum except when the prison is full.

There was no chum upon Mr. Oxley, at No. 13, for the last half year?—His is a slip; he has been here a good while.

There was no chum upon Baron de Wichster, at No. 10 in 10, in the last half year?—I believe there was not, the last half year; he is a foreigner, and he has been here six or seven years, and is very much distressed; he wanted to take the benefit of the Act, and could not.

There has been no chum upon a person of the name of Chick, for some time?—That is the woman who has the kitchen; it is a little slip.

There is no chum upon Sandom, at No. 2 in 10?—He is one of the gentlemen committed by the Court for hoaxing.

How came he to have no chum?—On account of his being committed by the Court.

In No. 11, there was no chum upon a man of the name of Cobb for the half-year ending December?—He keeps a carpenter's bench, and works for the prison; he has been here seven years.

There was no chum in No. 1, staircase 12, for the last six months, upon Cowlam?—I know he had not one for some time.

Can you account for that?—The prison was not so full; when it got full I was obliged to chum him; he had in January a chum.

By the book it appears that Cowlam had no chum during the six months ending the 31st of December last?—I dare say he had not.

Why had he not?—Because the prison was thinner then.

During the whole of that six months?—Four months out of six I dare say it was; I cannot say the whole of the six months, that runs through the long vacation; all the vacation, till November, the prison was thin; there were not half so many in as there are now.

Why had he no chum in December, when the prison was so very full?—Because, being the oldest prisoner, he was the last to be chummed on.

Had not you three on, in most of the rooms in December last?—I suppose we might, on about twenty rooms; and they most of them asked to be chummed one with another.

Why did you chum on three people on one room, before you had chummed two on all?—If they know one another, perhaps they come and ask me; there are three people now chummed in that way; they come and ask me to chum them in that way.

Was not the prison at that period so full that you were obliged to chum two people on all the rooms, and three people on some of the rooms?—Certainly.

Then why did you not chum two persons on Cowlam's room?—I do not know the reason for it.

Do you chum in the state rooms?—Never, they were never known to be chummed upon.

How then comes Mr. Prescott to have been in No. 4 state house, and afterwards to have been succeeded by Robinson?—Mr. Robinson is out some time ago; they change if they like one room better than another, if they have been in a good while. If Mr. Prescott liked another room better, I dare say he would have it if he asked for it.

Christopher [illegible]

Would you turn out the occupant of a room for the purpose of making room for him?—Oh dear no.

Mr. Prescott is now in No. 1 in the statehouse?—He is.

Was Prescott changed by his own will?—Yes; he asked for it, and the marshal gave it him directly.

Do you mean the marshal himself?—No; Mr. Brooshooft, I dare say.

Does the marshal ever interfere in the changing of rooms?—No; Mr. Brooshooft is the principal person.

Mr. Brooshooft signs all chum tickets, does not he?—Yes, he does.

Is there any work going on in the prison now?—Yes; shoemaking and tailoring, and other trades.

How many, do you suppose, of the prisoners now in the prison, work?—I cannot tell justly; I could easily inform myself on that.

What trades do they principally work at?—Tailors and shoemakers; and carpenters get a bench, and earn a little money.

Do you allow carpenters and joiners to work?—They are allowed to have their bench in, and work and repair the rooms; if a carpenter gets into a room, perhaps he will make it a little comfortable.

You have stated, that 5*s.* a week is generally paid to persons for being chummed out?—Yes.

Is any less sum ever paid?—Not that I know of; there has been, years ago, I dare say.

Did you ever hear, since your time, of 3*s.* being paid?—No.

Never less than 5*s.*?—No.

How long have you been in the prison?—I have been eight years with the marshal.

Do you shew any particular favour to persons having shops, as to chumming?—No, we chum persons upon them more so perhaps.

Then why did you state that a person was not chummed upon, because he was a carpenter?—Because he had a bench, and is a very poor distressed man; and it is a very convenient thing for the prison to have a carpenter with his bench here.

He might still carry on his business as a carpenter if he had a chum, might not he?—He is a very poor distressed man.

Do you shew favour to those persons who have been prisoners long, and cannot get out?—Yes; many who come here get out in three or six months, and spend a great deal of money while they are here; but those who remain in, are generally distressed.

Bernard Emanuel Brooshooft was again called in, and Examined.

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

It is in evidence, that there have been two women chummed in Gore's room since the Committee met here; why has there been any alteration upon that subject?—I suggested, that I thought it was a matter of complaint before you, that that room was occupied by Gore, and if it was, that the sooner it was done away the better.

Did you know before, that Gore occupied that room?—I certainly knew it.

What was your motive for permitting him so to occupy it?—He was a prisoner first, and then afterwards became supersedeable; we allowed him to go into the rules, having been previously a prisoner and a waiter at the coffee-house; the prison was not very full at that time, and he was not dispossessed; and it was a growing evil as it turned out.

Had he possession of that room in December last?—I have no reason to doubt that he had, though I do not know it.

Does the furniture in the room belong to him?—I believe so, but I do not know the fact.

He lets it for a guinea a week, does not he?—I do not know the amount, I understood he let it, certainly.

The marshal has informed the Committee, that he gave you, in the nature of a salary, 100*l.* a year?—Yes, a hundred guineas.

That you have, in addition, half a guinea fee as Clerk of Inquiries?—Yes.

Is that all the profit or salary you have?—Except that it is more than half a guinea in many cases I receive for those inquiries.

Mr.
B. E. Brooshooft.

You have no other profits, salary or perquisites, but those two that are mentioned?—Nothing that I can claim.

Have you any thing that you receive?—Nothing that I receive, except presents from a variety of persons; even after their discharge I have had money and presents sent me from various parts of England.

Presents arising from the gratitude of persons to you for your conduct towards them during their confinement?—I flatter myself it is from that reason, and I continue to receive them to this day.

Is it possible to give the Committee an average of the annual amount of the presents so sent?—No, it is not; it is not money very often; but I have wine, and I have had rum sent from the West Indies; and hares and game, and things of that sort, from the country.

Can you tell the Committee the average amount of the money you receive as Clerk of Inquiries?—No, I keep no account, as I have nobody to account to for it.

How much do you receive altogether?—I suppose I have for my family about three hundred a year, or from that to four hundred.

How much does your situation of Clerk of Inquiries produce?—I suppose about 200*l.* a year.

Is that a voluntary payment of the persons desiring to have the rules?—It is all voluntary, exclusive of the commitment and discharge fees.

The half-guinea is voluntary?—Yes.

Have you ever received anything in the nature of a present from persons while they were within the walls of the prison?—Nothing in the shape of money.

But you have in the shape of wine?—I have had wine sent to me, but for no particular purpose that I know of, except any attention I may have paid them.

Is it common for the friends of prisoners coming into the prison, to make presents to you or the turnkeys?—I never received a shilling from the friends of a person coming in.

Is the Committee to understand, that you never received a shilling from the friends of a person coming in, prior to their coming in, or at the moment of their coming in, and that the presents were to be considered rather in consideration of favours they had received than favours they were to receive?—Certainly; I never had any present in anticipation in my life.

It appears by the Table of Fees, that 6*s.* 2*d.* is the legal fee to be paid by a person on entrance into the prison?—That is the amount.

How comes it that 10*s.* 2*d.* is demanded and paid?—I do not know from what it originated, but it has been received and paid ever since I have been here, in the way I will inform the Committee; 6*s.* 2*d.* is received by the marshal; the 4*s.* is applied in this way; a shilling to the scavenger, a shilling to the watchman, a shilling to the cook, and a shilling to the clerk of the chapel; I never saw it paid, but I believe that is the proportion.

Who receives the money?—It is received by the turnkey, at the time he receives the marshal's fee of 6*s.* 2*d.*

Has the turnkey an authority to excuse persons that are poor?—Oh certainly; the turnkey does not immediately do it himself, but he states to me that the party is poor, and the whole is remitted together.

In case of application, you give a special order to remit the fees of a particular person?—They never ask for the fees until they want to be chummed, and then the fees are demanded; then the prisoner says, I am poor and cannot pay them, and I say you must have your chummage without it; if they do not pay it when they go in, they make an application afterwards for their chum ticket without it, and then it becomes discharged altogether.

Do you give an authority to the turnkey to remit it?—Certainly; every week in my life I am doing it.

Is it a verbal or written authority?—A verbal authority.

How then does the marshal know that he gets a true account from his turnkey, of fees the turnkey receives on his account, if the turnkey has no written authority to forgive the fees of particular persons?—The marshal depends upon his officers giving him a true account; he never took an account or examined an account in his life.

You mean that the marshal receives from the turnkey what the turnkey offers him,

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

him, as the amount of his fees, without any enquiry?—They are paid to me, and I discharge them to the marshal.

Is there an account in any book kept by the turnkey of the fees he receives?—They deliver in their account upon a piece of paper; Thomas such-a-one 6*s.* 2*d.* with the day he was committed, in order that I may give an account of it, and the amount; such-a-one's discharge fee, so much.

Do you keep a regular written account of this?—No; I render my account to Mr. Jones every week.

You pay the gross sum to the marshal?—Yes; without particularizing the names, only so much for fees; no account runs longer than a week.

Is there any arrangement between you and the marshal, by which any portion of those fees comes to you?—Not a shilling of them.

The marshal has given in an account of the number of persons whose fees were remitted in the year 1813-14; how was that account made out?—To the best of my judgment, it was made out from having seen how much was paid by prisoners who were discharged under the Act, and from finding the number discharged that ought to have paid.

Do you ever take a part of the sum that is due for the fee, instead of the whole?—No, certainly not.

You either take the whole or nothing?—Yes.

The fee being 10*s.* 2*d.* do you ever take five or six shillings, and excuse the rest?—Certainly not.

Having permission from the marshal to remit his fees, do you conceive you are equally entitled to remit the fees that are taken for the scavengers and the watchmen?—They are bound to give up their fees, as the marshal gives up his.

You conceive their fees rest not upon the authority of the Court, but upon custom?—They were generally called garnish; I believe it is the same sort of fee as is taken in other prisons.

Supposing any individual was to refuse to pay the 4*s.* what should you do?—We should not demand it a moment; nor would he be deprived of any right in consequence of not paying it; but they are all willing to do what is right, when they come.

Fourteen shillings and eight-pence appears, by the table of fees, to be the fee payable on a prisoner's discharge, but it is in evidence that 17*s.* 4*d.* is demanded; on what ground is that sum demanded?—It may be more than 17*s.* 4*d.* for the Clerk of the Papers is entitled to 4*d.* in every action.

How do you account for the difference in general cases between 14*s.* 8*d.* and 17*s.* 4*d.*?—I can account for it in no other way than half-a-crown being paid to the turnkeys, as a supposed remuneration for endorsing the discharge and proving the hand-writing of the attorney who gave the discharge; the marshal is not in a situation to know the hand-writing of all the persons sending discharges here, and the turnkey is bound to make the due enquiry, and sometimes to go over the water for that purpose; and that fee has arisen out of that circumstance.

The difference between 17*s.* 4*d.* and 14*s.* 8*d.* is 2*s.* 8*d.*; what becomes of the difference between 2*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* 8*d.*?—I cannot say; the turnkeys receive the whole, and they account to me only for the marshal's fees.

Is there no arrangement between you and the marshal, as to what you should receive, besides the hundred guineas a year, and the fee as Clerk of Inquiries?—None; I receive no emolument whatever that he knows anything of, except in the way I have explained to the Committee before; I receive a half-guinea or more; I sometimes receive a guinea or more, if it is a gentleman, and I have a great deal of trouble if the sum is very large.

Did you ever communicate to Mr. Jones, that persons who had been in the prison had sent you presents, or that persons who were then in the prison had done the same?—Never.

You did not, in point of fact, think it necessary so to do?—I did not; they send them of their own accord.

Have you had lately any prisoner escape from the prison besides Lord Cochrane?—Not to my knowledge; not from the inside of the prison.

Was there not a person who was a prisoner, either in execution from the Crown, or under sentence of the Court, of the name of Lovell, who escaped lately?—I never heard of it.

Had

Had you a prisoner by the name of Lovell within the walls lately?—I cannot tell without searching the books.

Could such an escape have taken place without your knowledge?—It could certainly.

Must it not have come to your knowledge within a month or six weeks?—If I had a representation; I could not personally know it.

Who then could know it?—It ought to be known to the turnkeys of the prison; I do not know the face of every prisoner.

You suppose the turnkeys would communicate it to you if they knew it?—Certainly.

Is it possible that a prisoner might escape from the inside of the prison, and you not know it for a twelvemonth?—If the turnkeys knew it (and I should think they must know) I should expect they would inform me immediately.

If the turnkeys did not inform you, you might not know it for a twelvemonth?—Certainly, for I do not know the persons of all the prisoners.

Within what time, if the turnkeys discharge their duty, ought you to know of a prisoner's having escaped?—I should think I ought to know it immediately.

Upon what ground can you assert, that the turnkeys must know of the escape?—They cannot know it, but from what I have before stated in the course of my examination, from missing the man within a reasonable time, I should think.

It is not necessary a man should present himself to the turnkeys?—No, certainly not.

Then might not a person be out of the prison for six months, without being missed?—They never present themselves to the turnkeys, nor seldom go to the gate.

Supposing it happened that a man had been out of the prison for a twelvemonth, and the turnkeys did not know it, should you suppose there had been negligence somewhere?—I should suppose there must be negligence, unless he got over the wall; if he went through the gate there must be negligence.

You suppose, that if a man got over the wall he might be gone a twelvemonth before it was known?—If he was a prisoner for debt it must necessarily be known to the parties, from the enquiries they make for their own advantage, the attornies for the creditors would very soon find it out.

Then the knowledge of the circumstance would come from persons without the prison, who would sue for the escape, and not from persons within the prison?—It is the natural consequence, that it should come from outside, for the creditor would sue the marshal for the money.

How many escapes have you had the last year?—No escape from within side, but Lord Cochrane's, to my knowledge.

How many the year before?—I do not know that there has been any at all; I do not recollect more than two the whole time I have been here, from the inside of the prison.

Do you mean, that the state of inspection of the prison is such, that without any very strong neglect of duty on anybody's part, a man might be out of the prison a year, without your knowing it?—The possibility of the thing certainly exists; but I think it is most highly improbable.

You have stated, that there are means from the outside of ascertaining the escape of debtors; are there any means without the prison of ascertaining the escape of prisoners committed by the Court?—They are very few in number, and they are persons generally more noticed than other prisoners are by the officers of the place, and also by the prisoners themselves; where there are so few as only three or four, seldom averaging more, their persons are more observed.

And they would be more likely in consequence to be missed?—Much more so I think.

Supposing the rent of a prisoner's room were regularly paid to the turnkeys, and that prisoner had escaped, what means would the turnkeys have of detecting his escape; is it not probable he might be some months out of the prison without its being known?—Not a Crown prisoner.

Why not?—Because we have an eye upon those persons; we know the worst of a prisoner for debt escaping, that we must pay the debt and costs; but as to the others, it would be made a public matter, and we might be called to account by the Court.

What means of inspection have you?—They are more known to the turnkeys, and

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and more noticed by the prisoners; I think a person could not be gone twelve hours, without our knowing of it.

How is that consistent with the escape of Lord Cochrane?—Lord Cochrane is a man of whom I would not have believed it; if any person had said he was gone, I should have thought it an insult to his Lordship, and I should not have thought of intruding myself upon his Lordship's room.

William Jones, Esquire, was again called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

You have stated in your former evidence, that there is a private arrangement between you and Mr. Brooshooft, and that you make his situation worth his while in different ways; what do you mean by the expression "in different ways?"—That he gets his half-guinea fee upon every inquiry, which I look upon to be a compensation; and I stated that he had 100*l.* a year from me; I find it is one hundred guineas a year.

And to the best of your knowledge and belief, he receives nothing but the one hundred guineas a year, and the half-guinea as Clerk of the Inquiries?—To the best of my knowledge, he does not.

You are not acquainted with the fact, that he receives presents from persons out of the prison?—I believe, according to the trouble he has when he goes to inquire; he may have to go three or four times to different parts of the town; I believe he has presents for that extra trouble, but the amount, or anything about it, never comes to my knowledge.

What is the nature of the inquiries he makes?—When people come here and give me security for the Rules, it is his duty to go and inquire into the sufficiency of those sureties; sometimes he has to go miles one way to inquire for one, and then miles the other way to go to inquire after the other, and half-a-guinea is not a sufficient remuneration in such a case; for if he reported persons as sufficient who turn out insufficient, I should certainly consider him as blameable; he has presents in those inquiries, I know of no other.

He has no share of the fees and emoluments given by you?—Not a halfpenny.

Are those you have delivered in, all the Rules and Orders which exist?—There are some few Rules of Court; it would take up a great deal of time to collect them all.

Ann Chick was called in, and Examined.

Ann Chick.

You are cook in the prison?—Yes.

By whom were you appointed?—It was to let; the prisoners refused to have it; I asked Mr. Brooshooft whether he thought I should do; he said, I might make trial of it.

What do you mean by its being to let?—There are fixtures to be taken by whoever takes it.

What did you pay on coming in?—28*l.* for fixtures.

To whom?—To the man who left it, Mr. Sweney.

Did you pay anything to any one else?—No, no one else; not a farthing.

If you quit the kitchen, should you expect the fixtures to be bought of you?—I should suppose so; the same as I gave; there is nothing to use, and I have had the copper altered, and laid out a great deal of money; there were but three saucepans and two fish-kettles.

Did you pay 28*l.* for three saucepans and two fish-kettles?—No; the kitchen is parted off, and there are cupboards and shelves.

Did you pay for the grate?—No; that belongs to the prison.

Do you pay rent?—No.

You pay nothing to Mr. Brooshooft or Mr. Morris, or the turnkeys?—No; not a farthing to anybody.

Do you cook for them gratis?—They do not have anything cooked, they have apartments outside; they do not live inside.

What is your rule, as to the dressing of the victuals between 12 and 2?—I cook in the copper between 12 and 3 for nothing; but not by the other fire.

Do you mean to say, that you never have received payment for cooking in that copper?—Oh yes, we do; whoever leaves it in our care to mind it, and when we find nets and such things; we cannot find servants for nothing.

Ann Chick.

If the person puts it in himself and takes it out himself, you receive nothing?—No.

What is your common charge?—A penny for steaming potatoes, if it is a pound, a halfpenny; a penny for greens.

How much for meat?—Four-pence a joint; some six-pence; if we lend them dishes, we charge them six-pence.

If you cook it, you charge?—Yes; and if it is lost I must make it good, if it is left in my care.

If they cook it themselves, you charge nothing?—No.

What do you consider the profits of your kitchen to be worth to you per annum?—Upon my word I cannot tell, I have lost so much money by trusting people; I have trusted above 100*l.* since I have been there.

How long have you been here?—Two years to-day.

What do you think your kitchen is worth?—Sometimes we take six shillings a day, and sometimes ten shillings a day, but then we burn a sack of coals per day.

You are allowed some coals?—Yes; there is 20*l.* paid by Mr. Bull.

Why do you not get a shilling out of the fees upon each person, instead of only nine-pence?—They have three-pence, I understand, for receiving it; there are three turnkeys, and they have three-pence among them.

Suppose you were paid by every person whom you trusted, should you think the profits of your kitchen would be 100*l.* a year?—No.

£.50?—It may be worth that, perhaps, if I do not trust; but I have been two years here, and have trusted them a great deal.

Do not a great many prisoners put in their provisions to be boiled for nothing, between 12 and 3?—No, not a great many; there are a good many cooks' shops, and they find it cheaper to go to the cooks' shops.

You dress for some of the shops?—Yes; some of the gentlemen like it rather roasted than boiled.

Are there not a good many who have their joints dressed?—Yes, and they pay me well, perhaps, when they first come in, when they have money; but afterwards they get into debt.

Do the prisoners often dine together?—Yes, sometimes a party of five or six.

Are you a prisoner?—No.

Were you ever a prisoner?—No; but I used to be at the coffee-house from a child.

William Bull was called in, and Examined.

William Bull.

You keep the tap?—Yes.

Of whom do you rent the tap?—Mr. Jones has the license for the tap; he put me in here.

What do you pay him?—I do not pay him any thing for the tap; I pay him so much for the beer; I do not pay any rent.

What is the nature of your arrangement with Mr. Jones?—I pay Mr. Jones so much a butt for the beer.

How much?—8*l.* 2*s.* now.

How many butts do you consume in the course of a year?—That is as it happens, according to the number of prisoners; sometimes we draw twelve or thirteen butts a week, sometimes not above four or five.

What was the consumption of porter last year in the tap?—I cannot tell.

What was the price you paid to Mr. Jones for the porter last year?—8*l.* 17*s.*; it was lowered 15*s.* a butt.

What are your profits out of each butt?—Upon my word I cannot justly say at this present moment.

What do you sell the beer at?—Five pence a pot, the same as at other houses.

How many pots are there in a butt?—There are 105 gallons in a butt of porter, there are four pots to the gallon.

Is there much drinking at the tap?—All the beer that is drank in the Bench goes from the tap, both to the coffee-house and the brace.

Do people stay drinking late at night in the tap?—They never stop after eleven o'clock at night, nor never have while I have been there; and the doors

are

William Bull.

are shut up during chapel time; the doors are kept shut till the clergyman is gone out of the chapel.

How long have you kept the tap?—I have kept it seven years last October.

Since you have kept the tap, do you mean to state, that no person has ever sat drinking in your house after eleven at night?—I think only two nights; and that was the jubilee night, and some other particular occasion, I kept open till three or four in the morning.

How many people sleep in the tap?—I have had as many as eight-and-forty sleep there.

Upon beds or the floor?—No; I have given them leave to sleep there when they had no rooms, and they found themselves beds or mattresses, or whatever they could.

Some sat up in their cloaths or in blankets?—Yes, some of them did.

How long ago was that?—I think it is three years ago since we had so many.

How many have you now sleep there?—I believe only three or four.

How many had you last December, when the prison was full?—I believe about ten or a dozen.

Do they pay any thing for that?—No; they come and ask leave, and I give them leave to sleep there.

Though you shut up your house to prevent any persons coming in at eleven o'clock at night, do you not give to those who already are in as much liquor as they want?—No; I go to bed regularly, and never draw any beer after eleven o'clock at night.

Do not you send large quantities of beer, previous to your shutting up, to the brace?—They fetch it themselves.

You allow them to come and fetch it just before you shut up?—Yes; they may come till I shut up, and get what they like.

Do you send out to persons rooms?—Yes.

What do you charge upon that?—An halfpenny a pot more, if we find the pots.

Do you charge any thing to the brace?—No; I do not charge any thing extra for that sent out to the brace; they find their pots; we lose a great many pots in the prison; I do not myself send it out to the brace; they come and fetch it, and to their lodgings, too.

Do you find that persons are in the habit of having beer drawn just before eleven, and that they sit to drink it after eleven?—Not in my house.

Do they in the brace?—I know nothing of that.

Do you mean that you refuse to let them drink their beer after eleven?—I lock all of them out who are not come there to sleep; and lock up my cellar, and go to bed.

If a prisoner comes for his porter himself, do you charge him anything for carrying it away?—We charge them five-pence a pot.

If he brings his own pewter pot, you charge nothing?—No.

If he takes away the porter in your pewter pot, do you charge anything for that?—The man charges a halfpenny for that.

You do not find pots?—No; I never let my pots go away; another person finds pots for them in that case.

In cases of positive drunkenness, when people are unable to walk away, what do you do?—They generally have friends that are drinking with them, that take them up to their habitation.

Have you instances of that kind frequently in the tap?—No; very seldom; I believe there are as few people get drunk in my tap-room as any tap-room in London, and as good regulations; and I do not allow any bad songs or bad discourse in my tap-room.

What measures do you take to prevent transgressions of good order and decency, such as you have alluded to?—They generally know such regulations are observed there, and they generally abide by them; the generality of persons are very good sort of people, and they generally behave themselves well.

Do you sell spirits?—No; it is not allowed.

Do you sell wine?—A little; but it is so dear I shall leave it off.

Do you pay any thing to the Marshal for selling wine?—Yes; 1 *l.* a week.

Mr. *George Soane* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. George Soane.

Did you at one time occupy a room belonging to a man of the name of Hunt?—Yes.

What did you pay Hunt for the room?—One guinea a week.

Had you the whole of the room?—When I had been there about four days, another person with my permission came in, and paid him half-a-guinea a week.

Where was Hunt at the time you occupied that room, and paid that rent?—In Belvidere Place.

Are you confident Hunt was at that time lodging out of the prison?—Yes.

How long did you pay the rent during the time Hunt was absent?—I should rather state it within bounds; I am confident to five weeks.

To whom did you pay the rent?—To Mr. Hunt; the other person who was in the room, and paid half-a-guinea, is of the name of George Shield; he is now living in the rules, in the London Road.

Can you account for Hunt having a room within the prison, while he was in the rules?—I can only give my supposition.

How do you know that he did not lodge in the prison?—From his own word, and from his telling me, when people came, where they were to go to him; and from his great anxiety that no person should know it; and from Mr. Morris coming one morning about six weeks after, and saying, well Mr. Hunt, as you have been out so long, Mr. Brooshooft says you may stay out.

That was addressed to Hunt, in your presence?—Yes.

What do you mean by mentioning his great anxiety, no one should know it; do you mean to say, it was not known to the marshal of the prison?—That he did not wish it should be known to his creditors, nor to the people in the prison, that any one had it, as others might ask the same indulgence.

How long did you pay the rent to him?—I have said five weeks, but I am confident it was much more.

Have you ever been out upon day-rules?—Yes; for the whole time, except the first week.

Do you mean every day?—Yes; except Sundays.

Upon what terms did you go out?—There are two ways of going out; the way in which I went out, was by paying a term bond, and having two securities for double the amount of it each day I went out; in addition to that, I paid 4*s.* 6*d.* to the deputy marshal Mr. Brooshooft. There is another way of going out, if a prisoner only wishes to go out for a day, he pays a guinea to the head tipstaff, and has a man to take care of him that he does not run away; he has of course to feed him.

What was the expense you incurred in giving the bond for a day-rule?—About 3*l.* I believe a little more than that.

What was the amount of the sum for which you gave security?—I think about 400*l.*

The term bond is renewed every Term?—Every Term a person wishes to go out, it is renewed; and there is 4*s.* 6*d.* paid every day he goes out.

For what number of hours may you be out under a day rule?—From nine in the morning to nine at night.

Do you know of the introduction of gin within the walls of the prison?—I know it is within the walls of the prison; it is regularly in a room in my own staircase, almost every night.

Is it sold openly and notoriously?—Any body who goes there, may have it.

Have you any reason to believe, that it is known generally in the prison, that persons at that room may have it?—Persons in general seem to know it; and persons have come to my room, asking where the gin-room was.

How long has that practice subsisted?—Ever since I have been here, between fifteen and sixteen weeks.

Is it not common sometimes for the marshal's officers to make search in the prison for gin?—I am not aware of such a thing; I know they have stopped gin coming in at the gate.

What staircase are you in?—No. 8, staircase No. 1; the room in question is No. 7.

Is the resort of persons to that room considerable?—Yes; I should think five or six together.

Mr. George Soane.

Are they all the same persons, or are there different persons?—There are different persons certainly; I have seen from three to seven or eight in the room.

Is it the habit of the prisoners to drink it in the room, or to take it away with them?—Both to drink it in the room, and take it away with them.

So that the person living there keeps a sort of public house for spirits?—Yes; a person who was in my room left it, in consequence of the disturbance from drunkenness; his name is Lay.

Does it happen to you to meet persons in the staircase, frequently carrying it away?—Yes.

Are persons in the habit of becoming intoxicated in that room?—Yes.

So as to render it uncomfortable to you to have it in your neighbourhood?—Yes.

Have you smelt gin in the room?—Certainly.

Have you any reason to think the officers of the prison know that there is gin sold in that room?—Nothing further than that it would be impossible for them to bring in gin so frequently, for there to be that tumult, without their knowing it.

Miss *Elizabeth Hamilton* was called in, and Examined.

Miss E. Hamilton.

You accompanied your mother when she came into the prison six years ago?—Yes; I did.

Were you employed by your mother to carry something to the turnkey upon that occasion?—I was.

To which of the turnkeys?—To Mr. Filewood.

What did you carry him?—It was a one pound note.

In a letter or open?—It was sealed up.

Did you see it put in?—I did.

Did you deliver it into his own hands?—I did.

What message did you deliver with it?—I said, Mrs. Hamilton had sent him that; he took and felt it, and said, that Mrs. Hamilton's business should be attended to, and it was.

Did he open the note in your presence?—No; he felt it; I suppose to see whether there was any thing in it, and he smiled.

What was the business of your mother that was to be attended to?—My mother was to be chummed on a room.

Did any thing pass between you and the turnkey, more upon the subject?—No.

Was Mrs. Hamilton chummed immediately after?—Yes, she was.

Was Filewood the chum-master at that time?—Yes, he was; she paid 6 *l.* for the room.

That she paid to the occupier of the room?—Yes; but Mr. Filewood was to receive half of that.

Who told you so?—The man himself told my mother in my presence.

What was there in the room?—It was an empty room, there was not any thing in the room.

Were not there any shelves in the room?—No; it was a mere empty stinking room, a very shameful room.

Were there no chairs or tables?—No; not a fender or any one thing.

No fixtures?—No.

No grate?—There is a grate in every room, I believe, belonging to the prison.

Mrs. *Sarah Hamilton* was again called in, and Examined.

Mrs. S. Hamilton.

The Committee understand you wish to correct your evidence as to the sum you paid on coming in?—Yes; I find on recollection it was six pounds instead of four.

What did the person tell you to whom you paid it?—That Filewood was to have half of it; I said I thought it was a good deal.

Was there any furniture in the room?—None at all.

Any shelves?—There might be a few; there was a double door; I would have a receipt; he said, "Received of Mrs. Hamilton, for fixtures," he dare not say for the room; I left every thing there that I took; I had a receipt upon a stamp;

Mrs. S. Hamilton.

a stamp; my daughter and myself were both prisoners, and my daughter was at first chummed upon a bad woman, a woman supposed to be a woman of very bad character, who lived in No. 10 Staircase, and kept girls, and used to have girls come into the prison.

Was that a common practice in the prison?—So persons told me; it is too common I believe.

Were the fixtures in the room worth the money you paid?—There were a few shelves, worth I should think eighteen-pence; the lock I paid for I expect the person who comes into the room to pay me for, of course.

Elizabeth Gayton was called in, and Examined.

Elizabeth Gayton.

How long have you been in the prison?—I have been here four months the 9th of last month.

You were chummed into what room?—I was chummed upon a French lady that has gone out, at No. 2 in 15.

She paid you 5*s.* a week?—Yes, and when she was going away, I was to go in. I told the lady I could not stay out any longer; I made away with every thing I had; I lost my mother and my daughter, who were my only friends, and I thought if I could get a room I could do a little washing; I went up to the room, and Mrs. Rawlins, who is now in the room, said I should not go in; that Mr. Morris had given orders that I was not to go in. Mrs. Rawlins would not open the door; a French gentleman went, and talked in French to her; she makes it a room to accommodate gentlemen, I suppose.

Did you complain to Mr. Morris?—No; I came to the door to Mr. Nixon; and Mr. Nixon said, I had no business to come to the gate, and that I should not go into that room.

Who is Mr. Nixon?—One of the turnkeys.

Did you ever speak to Mr. Brooshooft?—No; they would not let me come further than the lower lobby.

Where are you now?—At No. 14 in 16.

Does Mrs. Rawlins pay you anything?—No; I have refused to take it, because I wanted to go into the room.

How many persons are there in the same room with you?—Two men, that is all; and the man's wife sleeps there.

You are taken in as a lodger?—Yes; I am taken in, indeed, for I have no place to go into.

You say you have nothing but the money upon the gate; are you considered as one of the prisoners who have the charities?—I have three and sixpence a week.

Have you sworn you were not worth five pounds?—Yes; I am not worth a farthing.

Have you received anything out of the money collected by the poor's box?—No.

Have you ever held the begging box?—No, I never have.

Would you hold the begging box?—No; I had rather do some washing, or something of that kind.

Richard Deane was called in, and Examined.

Richard Deane.

When you came into the prison did you know any body here that could tell you the ways of the prison?—No; I knew one Baker, but not particularly acquainted with him.

Were you informed that you had a right to a chum ticket?—I understood they were in the practice of giving chum tickets soon after I came in.

Did the turnkeys tell you that?—No; they said nothing to me about it.

What became of you the first night you came in?—I went to lodgings, and was there nine weeks.

Relate what passed when you came into the prison?—A person at the coffee-room told me where I could get a lodging.

That person was a stranger to you when you came in?—Yes; I slept the first night with this Baker, and did not apply for a chum ticket, not expecting to get it for some little time, according to what I had heard.

How soon did you apply for a chum ticket?—In a few days; I got one in about a week.

Richard Deane.

Upon what room did you get that chum ticket?—No. 3 in 6.

Did you go into that room?—No; I did not go into it, I applied to go into it, and the man told me I could not come in, that his wife was there; I went to speak to Mr. Morris about it, and told him they would not let me come in, and had offered me five shillings; he told me it was the rule to take it, and I did.

Had you at that time furniture of your own?—Yes.

Where did you live before you came in?—At Newington Causeway, just by Horsemonger-lane.

Had you furniture there that you could remove into the prison?—Yes; I brought in a bed the next day after I came in, to the place where I lodged.

How long did you continue receiving the five shillings, and not having a room to go into as a chum?—For nine weeks.

Where did you lodge during that time?—In the same room I first went into.

How many persons were there in that room?—Only me and another person, most part of that time.

What did you pay for the room?—I paid half a guinea the first week, and nine shillings afterwards.

Had you your own bed the whole of that time?—Yes, I had from the day after I came in.

Were you then chummed into another room?—No; I suppose I applied a dozen times to Mr. Morris to be chummed in a room; he put me off, and told me, if I waited a little while I should have a lower room; I made tarts, and carried on a little business, and that would be an advantage to me; after applying many times, I asked him if he would chum me upon the room I was in; this person had had lodgers for more than three months; after applying many times and being disappointed, I said, Mr. Morris, will you chum me upon the room I am in, he has had lodgers so long a time, it is not right for me to be paying for lodging there.

Did he chum you upon that room?—No; he said, I cannot chum you there, it would be like taking a man's house over his head; and after a few days, he sent me the key of the room I have now got.

Since you were chummed into this room, what do you pay?—A shilling a week between us.

Since that time you have had no complaint to make?—No otherwise than there are upon the same staircase two rooms with only one in them; and there are two besides myself, chummed upon that room where I am, besides the lodger; Mr. Davis is the one, and Mr. Manley the other.

What is your present room?—No 4. in 6, the room Lord Cochrane had; this room I was in so long, the man afterwards sold to Mr. M'Rae.

What are the names of the persons chummed with you?—Davis and Hardy.

[The chum book was referred to, and the fact stated appeared there.]

How long have you been in the room with these persons?—I have been in the room ever since I let my lodging; I have been in the prison eight months yesterday, and was in my lodging nine weeks.

How long have you three been chummed together in this room?—The third has not been chummed above five weeks.

You are all three in the room now chummed together?—Yes.

Do Davis and Manley follow any trades?—No, no trade at all.

Are they very poor?—I believe not at all.

Have they handsome furniture in their rooms?—They are not handsomely furnished; but I understand they have plenty of money.

Have they ill health?—No.

Have they families with them?—I believe they have no families there.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

Christopher Morris.

In No. 1, staircase 6, there is a man of the name of Davis, why has he no chum?—He has been here two or three years, and is very much distressed, and Manley the same.

There are three people in No. 4?—Yes, that was by their own choice; I have offered to take them off; one of them is going off to-morrow; that is the largest room in the prison.

Who was the last man put on?—White.

Do

Christopher Morris.

Do you mean to say, Dean and Hardy both consented, that White should be put on?—Hardy asked for him; there are five or six rooms which have three upon them, and I offered to take him off, but Hardy did not wish it, he wished rather that he should remain.

Thomas Bennett was called in, and Examined.

Thomas Bennett.

How long have you been in the prison?—A fortnight to-day.

Where have you been living?—At the coffee-house.

Have you ever asked for a chum ticket?—Yes; three times.

Why have you not got one?—Last night I had one sent me; Mr. Morris told me, in the first instance, that the prison was so full he could not give me one, but that he would as early as he could.

He meant, that he could not accommodate you with a chum ticket that he thought would suit you?—Yes.

Have you got one now that suits you?—Yes; I stated that a gentleman was going out, and I wished to have it.

What have you been paying for your lodging during the time you have been in the coffee-house?—The first night I came in I applied for a chum ticket; I was told I could not have one then, but they would get me a lodging at the waiter of the coffee-house, and I paid him a guinea a week.

Have you slept in his room ever since?—I slept one week there; there were three other people there; it was very unpleasant, one gentleman having his wife with him; and I then took a room in No. 10 staircase, belonging to the coffee-house.

What did you pay for that?—A guinea a week; it is a very small room.

You lived in the coffee-house?—Yes; they told me they could not let me have the room unless I lived there.

Are the charges at the coffee-house considerable?—No; they charge me 1 *s.* 6 *d.* for my breakfast and 2 *s.* 9 *d.* for my dinner; I could live much cheaper myself; but it is not dear for a coffee-house certainly.

That includes neither wine nor beer?—No.

Have you anything to state as to any practice at the coffee-house, of which complaint should be made?—I think the master of the coffee-house being allowed rooms, out of the coffee-house, is an injury to the prisoners; had that room been at the disposal of Morris, I should have had it when I came in, without giving a guinea a week for it.

Is there much drinking at the coffee-house?—No; it is very regular; they shut their doors every night at eleven o'clock, and the fire is put out, as I understand; I never stop so late as that myself.

Owen Owens was called in, and Examined.

Owen Owens.

Are you Assistant, as it is termed here, upon the poor box?—Yes.

Do you hold the box?—Yes, with another man.

What is his name?—Thomas Ledwell; he has been in the prison these seven years almost.

How long have you been in the prison?—Four months and a few days.

Have you got the book of the poor box?—No, the old man has it; he has had it many years.

What account does he render to you of what he receives, both as to charities and as to money out of the box?—I do not know what is in the box, he never told me, but he has given me some money.

How much have you received within these four months?—I cannot tell indeed; we had a one pound note from the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and he gave me nine shillings.

How many are there of you to receive money?—Only he and I.

How long ago is it since you received that?—About Christmas.

Have you received nothing since Christmas?—Yes, we have had bread.

Have you received no money since Christmas?—Yes, he received nine shillings from somebody, and I had half of it.

When?—After Christmas, or just before Christmas; he had fifteen shillings some gentleman brought him into the house.

When?—After Christmas.

What do you mean by after Christmas?—Soon after Christmas.

What

Owen Owens.

What is the last payment that you have received?—I have received no money lately.

Have you received no money last week?—No, I have not.

How often is the box opened?—Every morning.

Who receives the money?—The key is with that man.

What becomes of the money?—He gives me a share of it.

Will you say to the Committee that you have not received any money for the last fortnight, though the box is opened every day?—Only what I receive from the box.

What have you received from the box in the last fortnight?—I cannot tell how much; some days 2*s.* some days 3*s.* some days 4*s.* sometimes more, sometimes less.

Are you present when the box is opened?—Yes, I am.

Have you always half of what is in the box?—Yes.

What did you get yesterday?—Three shillings and some halfpence.

What did you get the day before?—I am sure I cannot tell.

You must be able to recollect so very lately?—We do not receive much, but I have the half of it; some days we do not receive a sixpence, perhaps in bad weather.

How much do you think you have got out of the box per week while you have been here?—I do not know indeed.

About three shillings a day?—No, some days not fourpence; I have been there, and had only threepence halfpenny.

Do you get sufficient to support you?—Sometimes we live very poorly, on bread and water many days.

Do you receive 3 *s.* 6 *d.* per week besides?—Yes.

Do you live where you are chummed, or are you chummed out?—I am chummed out.

Then you receive 5 *s.* a week for being chummed out?—Yes.

Do you suppose that you receive upon an average, a shilling a day out of the box?—Oh, no, not so much as that; some days pretty good, and some days very little.

What is the most you ever received in one day?—One gentleman gave me one day a dollar, some gentleman that came here.

Do you receive one day with another, from sixpence to a shilling a day, out of the box?—Yes.

Has application been made by anybody else to hold the begging box?—Yes; some man was settled to come upon the box, and he did not come afterwards; I do not know where he went.

For the last four months, you and Ledwell have divided the profits of that box?—Yes.

As well as the different charities which have come to the prison?—Yes.

Ledwell keeps the book?—Yes.

Has he the book at present?—I never did see the book but in his hand; Mr. Brooshooft had the book about a fortnight ago, to look at.

[Mr. HOLFORD and Mr. PHILLIPS, two members of the Committee, stated that they had visited the rooms; that they found Davis in his room No. 1, staircase six; and that he had informed them he had measured No. 1, and No. 4, and found they were precisely of the same size, as they appeared also to the members of the Committee; they found that Davis had no chum; and that in the room No. 4, there were three chums; that in No. 6, there were also three chums, one of them lying sick in his bed, in which state he had been for some time; that the persons in No. 4, and No. 6, appeared to be in very indigent circumstances; that they found two families on the same staircase, at the back of No. 2, in a room represented to be of the same size; one of the persons chummed there, a married man, being sick in bed, and having been so some time.]

William Glennister was called in, and Examined.

William Glennister.

How long have you been in the prison?—Seventeen weeks last night.

Have you any chum ticket yet?—Yes; I had a chum ticket about three weeks

William Glennister.

weeks after I came into the prison; I slept in the tap, and applied to Mr. Morris a great number of times; the prison was very full at that time; I slept very comfortably in the tap.

Did your taking a chum ticket out, give you a title to go into the room?—No; it did not give me an indoor chummage; I was paid out.

How do you know it did not give you a title to go into the room?—I found myself very comfortable without going in; and Mr. Bull gave me the favour of going into the tap; and I got the 5*s.*

Did you conceive you had a liberty of going into the room instead of taking the 5*s.*?—Yes; but I never asked Mr. Lamb to let me go into the room; but about three weeks ago I asked Mr. Morris for a chum ticket, and he told me the prison was very full, but that, as soon as he could give me a chum ticket, where there were only two in a room, he would do so, and last week he gave me a ticket to go in.

Why did you ask for the second chum ticket?—Because there were many in the tap, and I found myself uncomfortable in the tap, and my wife wished to come and see me, and we had not a private place that we could discourse in, so that I thought I would give my 5*s.* up, and get an indoor chummage.

Why could not you go into the room upon which you were originally chummed?—I did not understand the difference of being chummed in or out of the prison, whether I could go into the room; and when I found myself sleep comfortably in the tap, that money went to support me.

Why, when you wanted to go and sleep in the room instead of having the 5*s.* did you not go to the room in which you were then chummed, instead of asking for a fresh ticket?—I never went to say I wished to take my bed in; there appeared to be a small family, and the room very much incumbered, there was no more than just room for their own bed, apparently.

Are not all the rooms of the same size?—There is a counter in the room, and there appears a deal of bed and bedding; Mr. Lamb lets out a deal of bed and bedding, and bedsteads and bed-furniture, to the different prisoners; he has generally got his room full; on that account I did not wish to be troublesome to him; now, where I am chummed, I find myself very comfortable.

You gave up the first chum ticket?—Yes.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

Christopher Morris.

You have told the Committee that Manley and Davis were put in single rooms, and that Deane, Hardy, and White, were all three put into No. 4, because there was a difference in the size of the rooms; now is there any difference in the size of those three rooms, 1, 2, and 4?—No. 4, is the biggest, if any thing; but there is very little difference.

Is there any difference at all?—I do not know that there is much.

You have told us, that White was chummed in No. 4, at Hardy's request?—Yes.

Do you persist in that fact?—I assure the Committee, Hardy knew it.

Did Hardy request White should be chummed upon him?—Yes; to the best of my recollection he did, or I should not have done it.

In the same staircase 6, there are also three persons chummed together?—Yes, there are; and they asked me, certainly; you may depend upon that.

One of them is a very sick man?—No; that sick man is chummed upon the shop, and he has 5*s.* he is a lodger there.

What is the name of the man who is sick?—Rodgerson; he is chummed on a shop; there are three more at 9 in 2, who prefer being together.

Do you mean to say that Boxall, Gregory, and Soderberg, begged to be all together?—Yes; two came and spoke to me; I knew they were always together lodging before they went there.

You stated that Manley and Davis were very poor persons?—Yes; they are very badly off.

Did not Davis for a time pay two chums 10*s.* a week?—Yes, he did formerly; but he has been in here so long, he is very poor now.

George Hardy was called in, and Examined.

George Hardy.

Did you ever request of Morris, that he should put White into your room?—I did not know Mr. White when he came into the room.

Did

George Hardy.

Did you know any thing of his being chummed into your room, till he came into the room?—I saw him in the tap, that was all.

William White was called in, and Examined.

William White.

Did you ask Morris to chum you upon any particular room?—No; I did not know this particular room.

Did you know Hardy before you went into the room into which you were chummed?—No; notwithstanding I think there was plenty of room for three in our room, for it is a large room.

Is your room larger than Davis's?—No; I think it is of the same dimensions.

Christopher Morris, having been present at these examinations, was then Examined.

Christopher Morris.

Do you persist in saying, that you chummed White in at the request of Hardy?—I thought it was so; but I think it was 6 instead of 9.

You stated it as a justification for chumming three persons in one room, when there were many rooms that had only one?—I thought it was so; Deane had an execution put in his house, and he wished to bring a great quantity of furniture in, and these men being there prevented part of that furniture coming in.

Mr. Corbyn and Mr. Buggin are both now chummed in No. 3, and have been for a considerable time?—They were till last night.

They have each their family there?—The family did not come in till yesterday; there was a lady.

Do you think it correct and proper on your part, to let single men have rooms to themselves, while there are two couple lying in one room?—I do not think it is right; but they have been so little a while, they have not been three months yet.

Do you know why Filewood was discharged from being chum-master?—Yes; for taking money from the prisoners.

He is at present a turnkey?—Yes.

How long is it since he was discharged from being chum-master?—Four years last January, I think.

You have stated in your evidence, that you receive no portion of the fees upon the prisoners coming into the prison; is that correct?—The turnkeys receive fourpence a piece on the prisoner coming in, and ten-pence on his going out, if he can pay it.

What is the division of the 10 *s.* 2 *d.* taken from the prisoner on coming in; is it not nine-pence to the cook, nine-pence to the scavengers, nine-pence to the watchmen, nine-pence to the criers, 1 *s.* to the turnkeys, and 6 *s.* 2 *d.* to the marshal?—Yes; I believe it is.

Magnus Soderberg was called in, and Examined.

Magnus Soderberg.

Boxall and Gregory are chummed in your room?—Yes.

Did you desire to have Gregory chummed upon you?—No; but there was another man came in, and I did not wish to have him; I wished rather to have Gregory in his place, if we were to have any one.

You had no particular desire to have a third chum, you had rather have had only two?—Yes; but they said, we should have three all over the Bench.

Believing you should have a third, you preferred Gregory to a stranger?—Yes.

Henry Boxall was called in, and Examined.

Henry Boxall.

Did you desire to have a third chum?—Not without there was occasion for it.

You had no particular wish for having three instead of two?—No.

John Gregory was called in, and Examined.

John Gregory.

Did you desire to be chummed with Soderberg and Boxall, rather than any where else?—No.

William Jones, Esq. was again called in, and Examined.

William Jones, *Esq.*

Do you wish to make any correction in your former evidence?—I stated, that Mr. Lushington did not attend to visit the prison on Holy Thursday last; I now recollect that he attended personally, and that it was the year before that Mr. Barlow and Mr. Jones attended.

How long has Filewood been turnkey in the prison?—He was so before I became marshal.

Was he not once chum master?—I have changed the chum master several times since I came here; he was chum master some years ago.

How many years ago?—I rather think Morris succeeded him.

What was your reason for removing Filewood from being chum master?—He was not a correct man in his chummages, and he was a bad scribe.

Was it not in truth, because you had complaints of his receiving money?—No; I do not think it was, for I have more dependence upon that man than upon any one in here; he has a very correct eye; if the Committee were to be here at nine or ten o'clock at night when so large a number of people were going out, I am sure they would see the importance of that.

Had you not, prior to removing him from his situation of chum master, complaints of his receiving money, and was not it on the ground of that, that you removed him?—I rather think, there was some complaint of that kind.

Have you any doubt, that your reason for removing Filewood from the situation of chum master was, that he had received money for chummages in the prison?—I am sure that was not the only reason; I believe it might form part, but I do not know that I told him so; I thought it right to put the chum book into other hands, certainly.

Do you think a person so convicted of a breach of trust in one instance, is a fit person to be placed in a situation of confidence?—I could not find that any charge was made against him, consequently I thought it right merely to try another, to see whether he would go on better than he had done; I had no charge substantiated against him, not one.

You dismissed a person from a situation of trust and confidence, without having a charge substantiated against him?—None could be made out against him.

You thought sufficient had been made out to remove him from that situation?—I thought Morris would do better; I removed him, because I thought Morris was better suited for it.

You have said, his incorrectness in receiving money formed a part of your reason?—In being charged with receiving money; but no such thing was made out against him.

Do not you believe it was generally understood in the prison, and is now known to Mr. Morris, that Filewood was discharged in consequence of his receiving money?—I do not believe that it is.

Should you think it a sufficient reason to discharge a man, that he was accused, without examining into the foundation of it?—I examined the parties; I did not choose to have it said that I kept a person in that situation, who was suspected; but there was another reason for discharging him, and that is, that he was very liable to attacks of the gout, and that he is not for a fortnight together able to dress himself, or get out of his bed; he has been a very long time here, I know he is not so well able to do that part of the duty, as he used to be.

When Filewood lets the room he has over the lobby, where does he sleep?—There are two rooms there; he sleeps in one of them.

He lets the other?—He never lets it, but with my permission.

When he lets it, he makes money of it?—No; he is only paid for the use of his furniture; he never lets it at all; whatever the occupant chooses to give him for his furniture, he takes; but he has nothing for the rent of the room.

For what length of time, in the course of the year, should you suppose that room to be let?—There has been no person in it for a good while; there was a gentleman there for three months, who was here for sending a challenge.

Does Filewood let that room, without informing you, and having your permission for it?—No; that is looked upon to be out of the prison, and no person can be put there without my permission.

Although you thought yourself justified in dismissing Filewood from his situation of chum master, on account of incorrectness, you yet did not think yourself

William Jones, Esq.

justified in removing him from the prison?—No, certainly not; I really removed him, in a great measure, on account of the attacks of the gout. I believe him to be a thoroughly honest man, and that he would not receive anything but what he was entitled to; if persons chuse to give him anything, that is another thing.

Did you examine into the charge of his having taken money?—Yes; if any charge of that kind is made out, I act upon it; I examine all the parties.

Do you remember the name of the party?—No, I do not.

Mr. *Gilbert Burnett* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. Gilbert Burnett.

How long have you been here?—Between four and five months.

You are a medical person?—I am.

A physician or surgeon?—A surgeon.

Have many cases of distress come within your knowledge, in which your assistance was required within the prison?—There have been a good many; I have even given them money to pay for their medicines.

You have voluntarily attended?—I have.

And relieved the necessities of persons by furnishing medicines for them?—I have; I have sent for the medicines from Mr. Oram's and Messrs. Walker and Bowling's.

How many people have you ever had, to your recollection, ill at the same time?—Twenty or thirty in a day.

Of bad complaints?—Some of them have, and some have not.

Occasionally infectious fevers?—No, there is one now that is rather infectious, and that is in No. 6, staircase.

What is the nature of the complaint?—It was an inflammation of the lungs and a pleurisy, but now it assumes the appearance more of a typhus fever.

Have you given any information of this at the gate?—Yes, a man who is there with his wife, went up to the gate last night. I wished them to be removed out of the room. There was Mr. Clements, the butcher, who ran a steel into his thigh, I wished him to be kept quiet, but owing to there being six in the room, he got a fever.

Are you certain that he suffered from there being so many in the room?—I am certain of it, for there being so many of them close together, there are so many breaths; and at seven o'clock, when I have been in there, if I had not been used to an hospital, I should not have been able to stand the smell.

It was so offensive?—It was; there is a man in the same room, a very lusty man; I was obliged to go and bleed him; he is getting into a bad way, in consequence of the room being so crowded.

Have you any doubt that the establishment of an Infirmary here is an act of necessity, no less than one of charity?—It certainly is.

Have you often been called upon during the night, to relieve persons who were suddenly taken ill?—I have; I was called up the other night to a man who had broken two ribs.

Are you aware that the people at the gate, under the orders of the marshal, find medical persons to attend those that are sick?—I did not know that they did.

Medicines as well as medical assistance?—No, I know nothing of it.

Did it ever come to your knowledge, that Mr. Saumarez has attended sick persons here, by order of the marshal?—I never heard of his name.

The Committee are to understand from you there is no medical attendance in the prison, except that afforded by persons in your situation?—Not lately; there was a Mr. Burford here, whether he took any thing I do not know; he was a prisoner here, I believe; there is no one but myself, and I have been at it this morning ever since half-past six.

You have been professionally employed ever since half-past six this morning?—Yes.

How many persons are there now sick within the walls of the prison?—About thirty.

Who are in want of medical assistance?—Yes.

To whom you give that medical assistance gratuitously?—Yes.

Supplying them also with medicines?—Yes; if I saw a pauper I have given him money; sometimes the chymist has sent the money back again, as I sent so many prescriptions to his shop.

Mr. Gilbert Burnett.

The medicines are given either by yourself, or by the person to whom you send the prescriptions?—Yes.

Are the distresses very great here for want of medical attendance?—Yes, very much so; but if the prison is kept very clean, as it is now, it would be much better, for the atmosphere will very much forward a typhus fever.

Is the prison much cleaner now than it usually is?—Yes, very much so; piles of dirt have been taken away.

When was the dirt taken out?—A month ago.

As much as a month?—Yes; there was a white horse and a chesnut horse came in with a cart.

As far back as a month?—Yes, I think so.

How long had that dirt accumulated before it was removed?—It had been there some months, and it was there when I came.

Was it very offensive?—Very much so, indeed.

Do you, as a medical man, consider it peculiarly unwholesome to the health of the prisoners?—Very much so.

To your knowledge are persons in the habit of throwing slops out of their windows?—Yes; I have been ducked twice myself.

Are there means of preventing that?—By applying to the marshal, they would lose their room.

Have you known of that punishment being inflicted?—I have heard of it, I never knew of it.

Is the smell on the back of the prison entirely owing to persons emptying things out of their windows?—Yes.

Is any additional food, or soup, or slops, or nourishment, given at the gate to persons who are sick?—Not at all, to my knowledge.

During the few months you have been here, have you ever attended persons to whom such nourishment would have been matter of consequence?—Yes.

Have they received it from the gate?—No, never.

Do you know whether any application has ever been made to the gate for relief?—Not to my knowledge.

Is it generally understood among the sick prisoners, that relief, if so applied for, would be given?—I do not believe it is; not a halfpenny.

Have you ever known application made and refused?—No, I have not; for I always give it them myself; I am certain they give nothing; there is a poor Dutchman now, who is dying with a disease of the liver and the yellow jaundice; he can get nothing from the gate.

Has he applied?—Not to my knowledge.

Do the persons at the gate know his situation?—Certainly; he is well known; he is sitting in the tap-room, in his blue jacket and trowsers, on the cold stones; if I had any place to put him in, I would do it at my own expense.

Veneris, 17° *die Martii*, 1815.

At The House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

Mr. *George Singleton* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. George Singleton.

ARE you acquainted with Mr. Ebenezer Davis?—Yes.

He is a prisoner in the King's Bench?—Yes, he is.

Are you his accountant?—Yes.

How long after his being in the King's Bench did you see him?—The day after he went in.

Did he employ you for the purpose of procuring him a lodging?—He spoke to me about it.

What did you do in consequence?—I guaranteed the payment of his lodging for a week with a prisoner who was in the Bench.

Was that all that you did?—At that time it was.

Did

Mr. George Singleton.

Did you speak to Mr. Morris, the chum master, in order to procure him a chum ticket?—I did.

What passed between you and Mr. Morris?—I understood from Davis, that it was customary to give Morris or some other person in that situation a one pound note; I offered him a one pound note to get a room for Davis; he refused it, he said, he never took any such thing. I gave Davis the one pound; what became of it afterwards I do not know.

You did not in point of fact, give any money or present of any description, or wine, to Mr. Morris?—I gave six shillings for a bottle of wine.

To him?—I paid it at the bar of the coffee-room.

Did you give him the money or the wine?—I left the money at the bar.

Had he the wine?—I do not know.

It was understood it was for Morris?—Morris went up and spoke to the woman in the bar, saying, that Mr. Singleton would leave six shillings for a bottle of wine for him.

You are quite correct as to his refusing the pound note?—Perfectly so.

Morris, in your presence, went up to the bar?—Yes.

You heard him tell the woman at the bar, that you would leave six shillings for him?—I did.

Henry Barlow, Esq. was called in, and Examined.

Henry Barlow, Esq.

What situation do you fill?—Secondary in the Crown Office.

Is it your duty under the Act of 2d Geo. II, to visit the prison of the King's Bench?—No, it is the duty of the Master of the Crown Office.

Have you ever visited?—I have frequently gone over with him as a friend.

As a friend only?—Being an Officer of the Court, not looking upon it necessary; the Master being the first Officer has gone, and he has frequently desired me or some other gentleman of the Crown Office, to walk over with him, and go round; I have frequently gone over with Mr. Templer before his death; I think I have not been with Mr. Lushington since his appointment.

How long is it since you visited the King's Bench, in company with the Master of the Crown Office?—A short time before Mr. Templer's death; I think I have not been with Mr. Lushington.

Have you visited it more than once?—Yes; when I was little more than a schoolboy, with Sir James Burrow; and frequently since.

Is there any record of such visitations kept in any book at the office?—No.

Is there no minute made at the time?—Not unless there was a complaint made; we have gone round and seen that the rules were hung up; and Mr. Templer was very particular in seeing to the weights, and nine times out of ten there have been no complaints made; if there was any man refractory, and in the strong room, Mr. Templer has had him up, and examined into the matter; and if there was any memorial to the King's Bench, the Master of the Crown Office has taken it and presented it; but I do not recollect any complaints for some years.

If there was a complaint made, there would be a record of it?—Yes; but there frequently have been requests of the prisoners to have places cleaned, staircases washed, and apartments whitewashed; and memorials have been presented to the Treasury, and the thing has been done.

There is no book kept in the Office, in which the visitations and the complaints made, have been entered?—No, there is not.

Did Mr. Templer direct his attention to any objects that were not subjects of complaint; such as the prison not being in so cleanly a state as it ought to be?—Yes, continually; and represented it to the marshal, and desired it to be rectified, regarding the drains being stopped.

Do you recollect his representing any misconduct of the prisoners that was not complained of, but came under his own observation?—No; I remember when first we went there we used to go into divers large rooms, to see there was no gaming going forward, and there was none when we went there.

When you found persons confined in the strong room, and Mr. Templer examined into the circumstances, was there any case on which he had occasion to reprehend the conduct of the marshal?—No, I do not recollect any case; it was a good many years ago since I recollect a case of the kind; a gentleman present took a note, and the marshal either let the man out in consequence of a promise of good behaviour, or something of that kind.

Do

Henry Barlow, Esq.

Do you recollect how often it has been the custom to whitewash the prison?—No?

Do you recollect any complaints upon that subject?—No; all that I remember is, that we have frequently found some of the staircases very dirty, and Mr. Templer has made a kind of memorial, which has been presented to the Treasury, and these things have been rectified.

Were any complaints ever made, to your knowledge, of the heaps of dirt that are laid up behind the back of the prison, as to their being offensive and noisome to the prisoners confined in that part of the prison?—When we have ourselves gone round, we have observed that they have been extremely bad, and have mentioned that they must be removed; and it has frequently arisen from drains being stopped, and orders have been given to rectify that; it was sometimes very bad.

Were any complaints ever made to you upon the subject of the urine in the prison?—No.

Has it come to your knowledge that the drains have been stopped, or has it been a representation of the marshal to you?—No, I think it was from the prisoners themselves, and from our own observation also; we have found it sometimes in a more filthy state than at other times.

Were any complaints ever made to you as to the want of an infirmary?—No, I do not recollect any thing of the kind.

Nor as to the number of sick persons within the walls, without medical relief?—No, I do not recollect any thing on the subject.

Were any complaints ever made as to the deficiency of food, and the general state of distress?—No, never; Mr. Templer used to be very particular about the weights and measures; notice having been given before, a number of the prisoners always met us at the door, and went round with us; and if any gentleman had any complaint to make of any kind, they had an opportunity of making it; and we went into the bakers' and butchers' shops, and also asked the persons, in their presence, whether there was any complaint as to the weights and measures.

Was your visitation always on a fixed day?—We used latterly to go over on Holy Thursday, being in the Term time, it was a day the Court did not sit.

Was it known in the prison prior to your coming over?—Yes, there was several days notice; and whenever I went, they always came, acknowledging to us, that they knew Mr. Templer was coming over to the prison; frequently (and those were mostly the principal) their complaints were of one another; that they were so troublesome they did not know how to live together; and Mr. Templer represented it to the marshal, and the marshal promised to do all in his power to rectify it.

Did you ever enquire whether any fees were taken at the gate, on the entrance and discharge of a prisoner, beyond those that are set down in the table?—No, never; I understood our duty to be, to see that the table of fees was hung up in the coffee-room, and in the different public rooms where it was usual; we never heard any complaint upon that subject.

The Committee are to understand, that beyond going generally over the prison, seeing that the weights and measures were as they ought to be, and listening to any complaints if they were made, the visitors did not think themselves warranted to set on foot any enquiry upon subjects that were not immediately brought before them?—No; I apprehend we thought it was our duty, in case of any complaints being made against the marshal, to enquire into them, and if necessary, to represent it to the Court.

Did you enquire as to the performance of Divine service?—No, not officially; I have been over to the prison to see different persons, and have asked, but I never remember to have asked it officially; I understand there is a gentleman of the name of Evans who does duty there.

Had you ever any complaints made to you upon the subject of the chummage in the prison?—Yes, frequently; and we have represented them to the marshal, and he has always promised to rectify them as well as he could; but they frequently seemed very unreasonable; when the prison has been very full, they have complained of one another; their greatest complaints have been of one another; they have said, Such a disagreeable person is chummed with me, and we have requested it might be rectified, and in some instances I know it was done.

Was it your custom to enquire as to the state of morals and manners in the prison, as to drinking and gambling, and the free admission of improper women? —No, *Henry Barlow, Esq.*

—No, I cannot say it was; I know we used to go into the rooms to see there was no gaming in the rooms, and there was none there when we went.

You did not think the morals and manners of the prison, further than any illegal acts of gaming, came within your cognizance?—No, certainly not.

Did you visit the prison in the year 1813?—I think I did, on Holy Thursday; Mr. Templer died in Trinity Term or about that time; and I have some idea I went with Mr. Jones; but I am pretty sure there were no complaints, and that I did not feel it necessary to report to the Judges.

Were those complaints often made?—No, I do not think they were.

Do you remember any being made, and when?—No; I do not remember any since Lord Mansfield's time.

There have been none in your time?—No.

Do you remember whether you visited in the year 1814?—No;—I think Mr. Lushington went, and I did not go with him.

If you did visit at that time, you are pretty sure there were no complaints made at that time?—No, nothing occur to my memory.

Sabbati, 18° *die Martij*, 1815.

At The House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

Fleet Prison.

Mr. Nicholas Nixon.

Mr. *Nicholas Nixon* was called in, and delivered the following Papers:

- A Return of the number of Persons within the Walls of *The Fleet*, and within the Rules, distinguishing those for Contempt of Court, and on Informations at the suit of the Crown.
- A Return of Fees payable to the Warden, Turnkey, and Clerk of the Papers.
- A List of the Donations and Charities applicable to the relief of Poor Prisoners.
- The number of the Wives and Children of Prisoners residing within the walls.
- A printed copy of the Rules and Orders for the government of *The Fleet* prison; and also,
- A List of the Fees of the Warden and Clerk of the Papers, giving an average of three years.

WHAT is your office?—Deputy Warden and Clerk of the Papers at *The Fleet*.

Who is Warden of the Fleet?—John Eyles.

Does he reside in the Fleet?—No, he has not for some years been able to do any business, being very far advanced in life, and nearly both deaf and blind; he was appointed Warden in the reign of George the IId, and therefore must be a very old man.

Can you inform the Committee how many years it is since he was within the walls of the prison?—I think he left me in the year 1804; he has not been at the prison since that time; I have executed the office ever since; I have been in the office myself, but the Warden has always been with me to assist me, till he was so incapable.

How long have you been Deputy Warden?—Twenty-six years.

Do you reside permanently within the walls of the prison?—Yes.

Are you absent during the summer?—I go out of town sometimes for a week or ten days; last summer, on a particular occasion, I exceeded a fortnight.

During your absence, who performs your duty?—My clerk.

You are never absent both at the same time?—Never.

What is your clerk's name?—William Woodroffe; he has been with me about eight or nine years; he knows the duty of the office just as well as I do.

Has he any appointment in the prison?—No; but I allow him a salary of 100*l.* a-year, and he has some little perquisites, such as on Enquiries on persons going into the rules.

What is the nature of the perquisites?—He enquires as to the quality of securities before I take them, on prisoners going into the rules, that I may not take improper security; he has a fee of half-a-guinea.

Has that been of long continuance?—Yes, it is a very ancient fee; I found it in the office.

Is he restricted to that fee, or does he take more on extraordinary occasions?—Probably they may give him more on extraordinary occasions; I believe no more is ever demanded; very possibly the prisoner himself may, for extraordinary trouble, desire him to take more; I believe that is the case.

Does he receive any other emoluments besides those two?—None whatever.

He receives no emoluments for any thing that takes place within the walls of the prison?—None whatever, to my knowledge; if he does, it is not tolerated by me; but I do not believe he does.

What number of officers have you within the walls of the prison?—Three turnkeys, a watchman, and a scavenger; that is all.

How are the turnkeys paid?—By me; I pay each a guinea a week, and they each have a room within the prison to reside in, rent-free.

They have but one room a piece?—They have a large room, and I believe they have partitioned it off, one of them; two of them reside within the prison, and the other under my office, for I cannot be between gates without an officer with me.

Have the rooms, so partitioned off, fire-places in both?—I believe not; I believe only in one.

Have the turnkeys any other advantages and emoluments, besides the salary of a guinea a week and the room in which they live?—Not that I know of; and yet I think that it is probable that they may; that they may in that room, being so divided, keep a bed to let out to a prisoner, but I am not satisfied how that is.

You do not know that it is the practice of the turnkeys to let out those beds to prisoners, who come in late in a night before they are chummed?—I do not know it, but I think it is probable; for when prisoners come in they are very much in want of a bed or half a bed, as their circumstances will afford; and if I am there myself I desire the turnkeys to find them a place, that they may not be distressed; but whether I am there or not, that is my general direction to them.

Have the turnkeys any fees?—No fees whatever, except 2*s.* upon the commitment of a prisoner, but that they do not take; I am designated turnkey as well in order to have the complete control of the prison, as for that my appointment runs as deputy warden, clerk of the papers, and turnkey; and that 2*s.* goes into my fees as clerk of the papers; but in the table of fees it is stated to be to the turnkey, and I am the chief turnkey.

The next officer you have is the crier?—Yes.

You have only one crier?—Only one.

What is his duty?—When a stranger comes to enquire for a prisoner, to bring him down to a room on one side of the gate, that the stranger may see him without being put to the disagreeable necessity of going within the walls of the prison.

Has he any other duty?—He is also watchman; I give him half-a-guinea a week for his duty as watchman; he is also scavenger, to keep the staircases and the prison clean.

What is his salary as crier?—No salary at all, only what a gentleman may please to give him that sends him in to bring a prisoner down.

What is his salary as watchman?—Half-a-guinea a week.

Has he any perquisites?—None whatever that I know of, but he has some little emoluments from me in his situation of scavenger; he also lights the lamps for the galleries of the prison, not the main lamps; and I allow him so much a month, he finding oil.

How much a month?—It runs irregularly, according to the length of the nights; in some cases a guinea, in some cases 28*s.* in some 32*s.*; he finds the oil, and I pay him, and I suppose he has some little emolument from it, but he has no other fees that I know of.

Has he a room in the prison?—He has, and he is a prisoner himself; he has no fees unless the prisoners may give him a few pence, perhaps weekly, for keeping the galleries very clean; I believe formerly they used to do so to the scavenger, to give him a penny a piece a week, a few of them, but only a very few; and some of that description may give him a penny a week now for aught I know.

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Do you think one person is enabled to execute the three offices of crier, watchman and scavenger?—I have always found one person quite sufficient. In the first place, his duty as watchman is not very severe, for he does not go on duty till the gate is shut, and that is past ten at night; and in the summer part of the year, when the days are longer, he is seldom on duty after four o'clock in the morning; then he goes off duty and goes to bed; and then he gets up in the morning early, and goes about his business as a scavenger to sweep the staircases and the bog holes, to prevent any filth or any stench being about; I never had more than one, and always found that sufficient.

Does he go his rounds regularly every half hour as a watchman?—Yes, he does generally; sometimes he may, like another watchman, fall asleep; but his duty is to go round every half hour, and I believe he generally does it.

You have no other servants in the prison besides those you have mentioned?—None.

Do you yourself enjoy a salary?—None.

What are the nature of your fees and emoluments?—I have half-a-crown upon every discharge of a prisoner; and I have 9*s.* 4*d.* for the return of every writ of habeas corpus for the first action; and for every action after the first, I have 2*s.* fees settled by the Court; and I have some other little trifling fees, sometimes a subpœna, sometimes a warrant to attend commissioners of bankrupts, but they are very trifling.

Can you state to the Committee the average annual amount of those fees?—Yes I can; I think my fees on the average of the last three years, have produced me about 800*l.* a year; before that period they were not half that; but lately the acts of insolvency having been very frequent, those fees have very much increased.

What are your fees as Deputy Warden?—I have no fees as Deputy Warden; my fees are as clerk of the papers, and the 2*s.* as turnkey.

Have you any arrangement with the Warden, by which you receive part of his Fees?—Yes.

What arrangement is that?—The Warden, before he quitted the office, agreed to take 500*l.* a year to maintain himself; and I have continually paid him that, not by quarterly, but by monthly payments.

What is the whole amount of the Warden's fees, upon the average of three years?—I think the amount, on the average of three years, may be about 1,500*l.* a year.

Out of which you pay the Warden 500*l.* a year?—Yes.

Do you speak of the gross, or the net amount?—Of the net amount; and I am liable for all escapes, not the Warden.

You mean that 1,500*l.* a year is exclusive of the fees to you as clerk of the papers?—Yes; and clear of all deductions.

Your liability arises from a private agreement between you and the Warden?—Yes; I am liable to the Warden, he being liable to the creditor.

What is the nature of the outgoings?—Taxes of the prison; we pay all manner of taxes there, and I am rated very high; I am rated at 360*l.* a year.

You mean by taxes, parochial as well as government taxes?—Yes; poors rates and all sorts of taxes; I have appealed against them, but I could get no redress; a part of the income is derived from the chambers of the prison, and therefore those are considered as fair subjects of taxation; the other outgoings are, servants, escapes, law expenses in defending against the consequences of those escapes, and they are pretty considerable sometimes, for I never try a cause for less than 200*l.* I also pay the chaplain and clerk.

What do you pay the chaplain?—I give him 30*l.* a year; and I suppose the clerk and other appendages stand me in about 10*l.* more, making about 40*l.* a year.

Have you any medical expenses?—Whatever is done in that respect I pay out of my own private pocket, because there is nothing allowed by the prison; but I am under the necessity of doing that sometimes; I cannot avoid it.

What is the meaning of the words "compulsory fee," in your return of the fees to the clerk of the papers?—Those fees that the Judges have by law authorized me to take; the Rules are optional fees; if a man goes into the Rules it is optional, so that I make the distinction in that way.

You have stated the amount of the fees taken by you as Warden and Deputy Warden, within the prison; have you any other emoluments?—No other emolument at all; I include in the Warden's income a sum of 200*l.* a year, allowed him

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him by Government in this way; formerly, and within my time, we had dwelling houses standing in the front of Fleet Market, where the wall now stands; those houses have fallen into decay, and I thought them very insecure for the prison, and therefore the Warden applied to the Crown to take down those houses, and build a new wall, and to allow him a compensation for the loss of the rent of those houses, for they were annexed to the office of Warden; and for the loss of that rent, which amounted to 250*l.* a year, the Government gave him 200*l.* a year.

Have you any emolument from the tap or cellar head?—I should have an emolument from that, but latterly and within the last three years, it has not produced me any thing; from this circumstance, the last tapster whom I turned out of his situation about two years or eighteen months ago, got indebted to me by purloining the receipt of the money, about 700*l.* and since I have turned him out, I have not been able to come near that money from any profit I have derived from the tap, so that it has not produced me one shilling for the last three years: It will in time bring itself round, and I shall have a small emolument from that.

What are the names of the different establishments for the sale of liquor within the prison?—The tap; the cellar head is only a term given, because the man resides at the head of the cellar steps, and he has his pipes laid on to that room.

What is the nature of the arrangement you have with the master of the tap?—He is to sell beer and ale; the beer and ale coming into the prison in my name and by my credit, for the brewer would not trust the prisoners with any; I make all the payments, and he pays to me 5*s.* a barrel upon porter, profit, and 5*s.* a barrel ale, profit; but I have not received any thing for the time I mention, on account of the circumstance of the failure of the last tapster; that is the whole of the profit I have from the cellar head.

What would have been the annual amount, supposing this failure had not taken place?—I think it might be somewhere about 200*l.* a year, but it is uncertain; depending upon the state and fullness of the prison; the consumption is very trifling when the prison is thin; our prisoners seldom send out for either porter or ale; that within the prison being of the best quality.

Is there any other liquor sold in the prison besides beer and ale?—I formerly had a wine licence; but I found it was very much abused and I got no profit by it, and therefore I would not take out a wine licence any more; I thought the prisoners who had the benefit of the wine licence, might smuggle wine in, and get me into a scrape.

How long ago is it since you had that licence?—Many years ago; I got no profit on the wine at all.

Is the person a prisoner who keeps the cellar head?—No, he is not; and in truth he ought never to be a prisoner; the tapster before was a prisoner. I have besides those, a man who keeps a coffee-room, and I am obliged to stick up a paper in the coffee-room, directing him not to take more for the ale or porter than it would be bought out of doors for; but I know that paper is not attended to; the coffee-house man or the tapman will not ask for more than I put down, but he supplies the prisoners with a knife and fork, and salt, and so on, and they give him perhaps a penny a pot more; he does not ask for it, but I believe he takes it when it is given.

Have you any engagement with the master of the coffee-house?—None; the beer is put into the cellar in my name; I taking out a beer licence.

Does the coffee-house man sell beer and ale?—Yes; but he has it from the tapster.

Do you prohibit the entrance of malt liquors within the walls of the prison?—Never.

So that any prisoner, if he preferred that to be got from out doors, might send for it?—Certainly; I prohibit in point of quantity; I do not suffer more than a pot to go to one prisoner at a time; I think he cannot want more.

Is the coffee-house keeper and the tapster the same person?—No; the coffee-house keeper and the man in the tap are two prisoners, they pay for the beer at the cellar-head: I have nothing to do with them, but to compel them not to take more for the beer than the prisoners could have it out of doors.

The tapster is not a prisoner?—The coffee-house keeper and the man at the tap are prisoners, but the man at the cellar-head is not.

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There are three establishments, the cellar-head, the tap-room and the coffee-room?—Yes.

The first is not kept by a prisoner, but the other two are?—Yes.

The other two deriving their beer from the man at the cellar-head?—Yes; and I make the men who go into the coffee-house and the tap, deposit in my hands 20*l.* and if any deficiency arises in the settlement of their accounts to the man at the cellar-head, it is deducted from that, and they have the rest when they go away.

Have you any other profits arising from the prison?—None whatever.

You have no profit from the chandlers shops?—None whatever.

What is your rule of nomination to chandlers shops?—They keep them by my authority, for no person can keep a public shop and have the Rules, without the permission of the Warden or his Deputy; I see therefore as to the necessity of it, for I am answerable for the good conduct of that room.

Do you attend to the persons in those rooms, selling on the same terms as the same articles are sold out of the walls?—I do not; but the Ward Inquest come into the prison to see that the bread is of sufficient weight, and if not they seize it in the same way as out of doors.

There is a rule that no prisoner should keep a public room within the prison for selling, among other things, brandy and punch, within the walls, without licence of the Warden; are brandy and punch sold within the walls?—No; spirits are prohibited by Act of Parliament; if I suffer them to go in I am subjected to a penalty.

These rules and orders were made previous to the Act of Parliament, prohibiting the introduction of spirits?—Yes, they were.

Have you any profit or emolument arising from the bakehouse or the public kitchen?—From the bakehouse I have none, nor from the public kitchen, nor from any thing else, but what I have stated.

How is the cook appointed?—The cook being an officer of the prisoners, is elected into his office by the prisoners; the cook and the racket master are officers of the prisoners, and I therefore permit them to be elected to their office by the prisoners themselves; and I have caused these elections to take place twice a year, that in case a man gets impudent and saucy in his office, the prisoners may have an opportunity of turning him out.

What is done, if he gets impudent or saucy in the interval?—I can turn him out myself, but I never have had occasion to do so.

To whose profit does the dirt, collected in the prison, go?—To nobody; it produces no profit whatever, the scavenger cleans it out every morning into the street, and the street scavengers come and take it up.

State to the Committee what is the rule as to the chummage of a prisoner, on his entrance into the prison; what does he do the moment he arrives there?—The first thing that he has to do to entitle him to his chummage, is to pay his entrance fee, and on the payment of that fee he will be entitled to be chummed on the next room in rotation, to receive his chum within twenty-four hours after the fee is paid; the rooms of the Fleet prison are given to the prisoners in rotation, beginning with the oldest, and they are chummed in like manner; we make no distinction as to gentlemen or poor men, the room must receive its chum in regular rotation; but if a gentleman will provide himself with a chum, and that person will wait till it is the turn of that room to receive a chum, to accommodate those two persons we chum them together.

Explain the nature of the rotation?—Suppose I pay my fees before another man, I am chummed first; and he who pays his fees after me is chummed second, and so on; and if I am the oldest prisoner I succeed to a room, and he that is next to me succeeds to another; that is the rotation.

Supposing each room shall be full, and you have other persons come in; what is done?—Then I chum him on the next room in rotation; I have not at present two persons in one room, not legally so; we have 89 rooms that receive chums; we have more rooms than that that would receive chums were it necessary, but they are inhabited by persons who have been a great many years in the prison, and I forbear to put a chum upon them, on account of the length of their imprisonment.

How many are there in that situation?—I believe four; one of them has been upwards of thirty years, and I thought it hard a poor man upwards of eighty years of age should have a chum upon him; he has taken the benefit of the

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Insolvent Act, but being committed by the Court of Chancery for not answering, he could not take the benefit of the Act; but being discharged of his debts he goes into the rules, or where he will; he has no friends to go to, and he is also chapel clerk; I gave him that to make his situation the more comfortable.

There are four of that description?—Yes, there are; the next is a lady, who has been there twenty-five years; what her reason for continuing so long is, I know not, but I suppose it is because she has some annual stipend of her own, but that if she was to give up her room she could not live without going to the workhouse.

Supposing you had one person in each of those eighty-nine rooms, and two came in, how would you determine how they were to be chummed?—Then I put one chum on some of the rooms, that would make three in a room.

Which should you select?—The one that has been longest without a chum, that room I select to put a chum upon, because it has been lightest, and therefore has a right to receive the first chum; but it is rare that we do so; sometimes before a temporary Insolvent Act the prison fills with persons coming in intentionally to take the benefit of that Act, and who if they happen to be foiled, discharge themselves almost immediately after they find they are not included in the Act of Parliament; for it is no uncommon thing for prisoners in the custody of the Warden of the Fleet, to detain themselves at their own expense, nor is it any uncommon thing for the Warden of the Fleet to receive both the plaintiff and the defendant in the same prison; a person who holds a room in his own right will detain himself Term after Term that he may not be supersedable, that I may not take it from him; and I suppose his inheritance in that is more beneficial than if he was out of doors.

When a person is supersedable, you remove him out of his room?—Yes; I cry his room, and give it to the next.

Suppose he is unable to pay the expense of clearing himself out of the prison?—Then I am a member of public charities, that will do it for him.

Is it a general rule that persons who cannot clear themselves, may receive that from a public charity?—Yes; and where a poor person pays the fees himself, twenty are paid for by those societies; I sign an attestation of their inability, and their fees are ordered to be paid.

How many prisoners do you suppose you now have, who are supersedable, and who might go?—I may be very incorrect, perhaps, but I suppose about twenty; I think I caused several rooms to be cried yesterday, of prisoners that were supersedable; the rule of Court is, that after a prisoner shall become supersedable, I shall cry his room, and take it away.

You think there are twenty persons who might go out, and could, if they chose?—I have no doubt that there are more than that; the reason those rules are made by the Courts of Law, is, that a man shall not have any inducement to remain in prison; and I applied for that particular rule, where they become supersedable, myself many years ago; for I found a great number of the prisoners were supersedable, and could be discharged, and that they were occupying rooms which ought to be occupied by those who could not be discharged.

What becomes of persons who, when supersedable, and their rooms are cried, do not leave; where do they reside?—They generally get along with some acquaintance in the prison; but if they want accommodation, I give them accommodation on the common side of the prison.

In assigning those rooms to the different persons chummed, is it always done under your immediate knowledge, or done by some other person?—It is done by my clerk; if there is any complaint, it is brought to me; but I never hardly have any complaints, my clerk is a very correct man, and I have a high opinion of his integrity.

Is the prison divided into master's side and common side?—Yes.

What is the distinction?—The master's side prisoners, are those who pay the entrance fee; the common side prisoners, are those that do not pay any fee at all; we have a place called the begging grate, a small place within the walls, where they stand and ask alms of the public; and if they are sworn upon that poor box, they must swear they have not five pounds in all the world, and cannot subsist without the benefits of that begging grate, and they are immediately admitted; that begging grate, I have been told by some, who have partaken of it, has produced

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produced them 300 *l.* a year; we have not sometimes more than seven or eight prisoners, and for some years we had not more than two.

Are they obliged to hold the begging box?—That is put on a stand, and they are in the grate within; any person coming along, puts what he pleases into the box; the box is locked, and if there is any dispute, they come to me to have it rectified.

Is there any account kept of the money so received;—No; they take their turns in rotation; every man has his twenty-four hours as it comes to his turn; and whatever he gets in that twenty-four hours comes to himself.

There is no weekly, monthly or annual account of what is received, kept?—No; I speak at random; but I have been told it is very beneficial; sometimes there are donations belonging to the prison, received and distributed among those entitled to it, all those upon the begging box, and nobody else; save and except 500 *l.* a year, which was by recent Act of Parliament given to the prisoners; that is given indiscriminately to any man who takes that oath, without being upon the begging box; I have excepted any man whom I knew had any income; that act was intended to prevent persons starving.

Are there any on the common side, who have nothing to do with the begging box?—Several.

Do you believe that prisoners do not put themselves into a situation to receive those charities, from an indisposition to expose themselves to the grate?—Many would not go into the grate at all; it is resorted to by only about seven or eight; for all those before the act of Parliament, took care of themselves without any aid whatever; and it was thought a sort of indignity to go into the begging grate to ask alms; and it is so considered. That act of Mr. Thornton's sprung out of another act of Parliament which passed into a law without notice, compelling the parishes to give relief to the poor prisoners within the prison; that Act was intended only to extend to a few local prisons in Yorkshire; but it was so worded as to extend to the Fleet and King's Bench; and upon that being repealed, this Act was substituted.

Was there not an Act before, which taxed the counties for the relief of prisoners in the Fleet prison?—No; there was an Act which gave 40 *s.* a year to the King's Bench and Marshalsea, but not the Fleet.

What becomes of those who are poor and have no income, but are not upon the begging box?—They generally wait upon the more wealthy prisoners, and get some relief by doing services for them.

What number of prisoners have you upon the poor side?—We have four cabins, and there are about seven or eight prisoners in each, generally.

What rents are paid for the rooms on the master's side?—The rooms pay fifteen pence, so that if there are two in the room, it is seven-pence halfpenny each.

How often are they collected?—Every Monday; but then we cannot turn a person out of a room, unless he owes a quarter's rent, then we have power to turn him out for nonpayment of his rent.

Does it often happen that they omit to pay for so long a time?—They never omit for a quarter; when they are poor I do not press them very much, but if they go on farther, I am obliged to cry the rooms and take them away.

You seldom, in point of fact, do that?—Very rarely; I often cry a room when it is in arrears considerably for nonpayment of rent, then they come immediately and pay the rent sooner than lose the room.

You are seldom obliged to turn out a person for nonpayment of rent?—Very seldom.

Do the rents belong to the Warden or Deputy Warden?—To the Warden; they are part of his income.

Do the persons chummed in the room, usually inhabit the room?—They sometimes do; he who succeeds to the room by rotation is called the owner of the room, and the chum and he may agree; and I have laid down a rule what he is to pay him, 4 *s.* a week and no more; and also what a person coming into the prison shall pay, for a furnished room 15 *s.* 3 *d.* and 8 *s.* 3 *d.* for an unfurnished room; if a person came into custody the old prisoners would think he brought plenty of money with him, and they would ask as much for a room scantily furnished, as he might have a first floor for in the best street of London; I believe I am often defeated, but whenever it comes to my knowledge, I take away the room by way of punishment.

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The person entitled to the room is not obliged to go out, on the payment of the four shillings?—No, certainly not; it is matter of arrangement.

What do those persons do who are so paid out?—They go to another prisoner as lodger; sometimes they take in three or four lodgers; I do not restrain that, because it is an accommodation to the prisoners.

Do you pay any attention to the number of lodgers they are allowed to take?—Never; there is no restriction at all.

What is the greatest number you have known in one room?—I have never known more than three in a room; but perhaps a man may let his room to various people, and have as many as six; he is not restrained; there is no law to restrain him; but if the person who lodges in his room found it inconvenient or unhealthy, he would go to another place.

What do you mean by your regulation, that an unfurnished room might be let for 8*s.* 3*d.* a week?—That the owner of the room and the chum, supposing they agree to let the room, are not to receive for an unfurnished room more than 8*s.* 3*d.*

Then the Committee are to understand it is allowed in the prison, for an owner of a room and the person chummed upon it, to go out and let the room legally to one or more persons, either furnished or unfurnished, if they like?—If they think proper.

But at the prices settled by you?—Yes; if I know that they receive more, I deprive them of their room or their chummage, for prisoners coming in used to be paying two guineas or two guineas and a half a week.

By the rules according to which you chum people, it can never happen that the owner of a room may have two persons chummed with him, while there is only one in another room?—Yes; say room No. 10 has two chums upon it, and No. 11 has two chums upon it, it may happen the two chums upon No. 10 may be discharged; we do not turn back to chum that room; that room receives no more from us till its rotation; so that a man may be without a chum while another has two.

In that case, the next person that came in to be chummed would be put on that room?—Supposing there were two rooms to be chummed, I should chum upon the one that has been the longest without a chum.

What record do you keep of the number of chums in each room?—We have a book in which they are all entered, and we permit the owner of a room to change his room once, supposing he has a room not altogether so comfortable to him; and the mode of changing that room is this; he sends a notice that he claims so and so, and whoever happens to be the oldest prisoner will be permitted to have that second room, so that he may have an opportunity of making one change.

Does a chum become an owner in any case by your arrangement?—Always, if he stays long enough, when it is his turn to have a room in his own right.

What difference is there between the owner and the chum?—None whatever, for the room is appropriated to their joint uses.

In your chum book are there the dates of the chummages?—Always, and the number of the rooms, they follow regularly one after the other.

There are two or more racket-courts established within the prison?—Yes.

How is the master of those racket-courts appointed?—By the voice of the prisoners themselves; there are elections that take place twice a year, so that if any racket-master behaves amiss he may be turned out.

What are their emoluments?—They get their emoluments by so much a game being paid; I understand they make about a guinea a week a-piece; that is approved by the Court for exercise.

Are they prisoners?—Yes; no person can hold any situation in the prison but a prisoner, and he must have this qualification also, that he is not supersedable; he must be a man obliged to remain in prison.

Can any prisoner play at those racket-courts without payment to the racket-master?—Yes, I believe a prisoner may; I rather think they collect the money from strangers that come in to play with them; they pay for the balls.

And for the use of the rackets?—Yes, if they have no rackets of their own, I believe; but this does not fall within any government of mine, and I am not competent to answer these questions.

Do many strangers come in to play with them?—A great many; there are prisoners in the Fleet, and have been from time immemorial, considered as very

very eminent players, and strangers who come in pay for their balls, which they will sometimes strike over the walls; and for the use of the rackets, I have often heard it said, that their places are worth a guinea a week, and they must derive their emoluments in that way.

Is it a practice for strangers coming from the market, to frequent the necessary houses?—I believe it may, but no such complaint has ever been brought before me, or I should order such persons to be locked out of the prison.

You believe that the practice exists?—I believe it may.

Are many complaints made to you as to riots and drunkenness within the rules of the prison?—I have endeavoured, as much as I possibly can, to discover persons of that description. I have enjoined the watchman to be vigilant, and to let me know who those persons are, for I lament to say, they too frequently happen, and more of late than formerly; but they put the lights out in the galleries, and run away after they have been in mischief; at two o'clock this morning there was a disturbance of this kind, and when I have discovered them, I punished them by sending them to the strong room.

At what hour are candles and fires ordered to be put out in the coffee-house and tap?—At eleven o'clock I have ordered them to be put out; but the prisoners will fight with the coffee-house keeper and tap-house keeper, if they attempt to turn them out; they are very irregular of late, and I believe it arises from their coming under the idea of their being to stay but a limited time, and bringing money to spend while they remain; it was not so till this three months Act came, and since that Act, they have been less moral than they were before.

The Committee are to understand you to state, that habits of drunkenness and of riot, have very much increased latterly?—I think they have increased; for they generally contrive to prepare money to maintain them those three months; and they are not very careful what they do then.

At what hour do strangers leave the prison?—The crier cries out 'Strangers all out;' and they begin to come out at ten; but I never get the gates locked up till half past ten.

Do all of them quit, or do any remain?—Many do not go at all.

Are the wives and families of the prisoners permitted to stay?—Yes; it has been thought by the Judges that prisoners may derive comfort from having their wives and children with them; there is no rule to the contrary; I have frequently threatened to lock them out, for it sometimes happens that wives have been riotous as well as their husbands; and if they have been riotous, I have threatened to lock them out.

Do you believe that prostitutes do constantly come in, to remain with men during the night?—They may if they please; I verily believe that it is the largest bawdy-house in London; and these girls often get into riots in the gallery, and there are sometimes fights; I lock them out whenever I discover them.

Is there a separation of male and female prisoners?—As to rooms there is, but not as to position.

In the same gallery there are rooms belonging both to male and female debtors?—Yes.

The same rooms are not always kept for women?—No; if I want more rooms for women, or for men, I take the same rooms for the one, that have been used by the other.

Does any officer of the prison visit the prison in the night?—No, not unless there is a riot in the prison.

Have you any master-key to the rooms?—None; the prisoners would be subject to an inconvenience, and supposing such a thing were to happen, they might impute theft to me or my officers, and therefore we never interfere with the rooms, unless there is any thing amiss; if they sell spirituous liquors, or any thing contrary to law, I send in to seize that liquor, and stave it in front of the prison.

You have no means of going into the room, unless they unlock it to you?—I conceive I have a right to go into any room I please, but we do not without their opening them to us.

Do you ever muster the prisoners so as to know whether they are all there?—No.

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Are escapes frequent?—Not very frequent; it seldom answers the purpose of any man to escape out of the Fleet prison, unless it is a foreigner who has no residence in this kingdom, or a smuggler who can live any where; many people come to the prison for their own benefit, that is for the purpose of taking the benefit of an Act of Parliament, and it rarely happens that any escape takes place, except it is a smuggler or a foreigner; we have had some escapes of prisoners who were in for very heavy debts; after I had been in office only a few months, I had 2,500 *l.* to pay for the escape of a French count; that was over the old wall, it has been made more safe since; but there can be no wall built, which a prisoner cannot get over if he is a clever fellow; a sailor who has the use of his limbs can get over any wall.

Are there any clubs amongst the prisoners?—There are two; one in the taproom on Monday night, and another in the coffee-room on Thursday night.

Are strangers admitted as well as prisoners?—Yes.

Do you know whether strangers belong to those clubs?—There is no selection of members belonging to the club; any body who indiscriminately goes into the room on that night, may take his ale or his porter.

In what respect do the club nights differ from other nights?—Only that the club is on that particular night, and the stranger may go into the room and sit down; it only differs in this respect, that there is a president who takes the chair.

Is gaming common in the prison?—I am afraid too much so; I have no means of checking it, for they game in the dead of the night when I know nothing of it, and they will get spirituous liquors in and keep what are called gin-shops, and that is very pernicious, for after they have left the coffee-house and tap, they will go and spend great part of the night at those gin-shops.

Do you search for spirits?—I did formerly, but I found that not so effectual as the course I afterwards adopted; when there are spirits, I generally have an anonymous letter giving me notice; then I cry the room to take it away; the owner very soon appears, and then I soon find whether it is a gin shop; if it is so, I take it away; we never search any persons coming into the prison, and the women will very easily bring it under their petticoats.

Do you think there is a considerable quantity of spirits consumed within the prison?—I think there is.

Is the prison secured against fire?—Pretty nearly so; all the rooms but those on the top gallery are arched with brick, and a fire might be in the prison without doing great injury; but the top gallery has a wooden floor; all the rest is stone, except the infirmary, that has a wooden floor.

Is Divine Service well attended?—Very badly; the clergyman tells me that he has not sometimes above half a dozen in the chapel on Sunday morning; he imputed that at one time to his coming so early; he used to come to morning service about eleven o'clock, and he thought the prisoners had not sufficiently got up, and got their breakfasts; I therefore altered the hour to one o'clock in the afternoon, but I found them as indolent in that respect as they were at eleven.

By the rules it appears that all the prisoners are required to attend, unless they have a reasonable cause of absence; is there any means of enforcing that rule?—None at all.

Are the coffee-houses opened during the hours of Divine Service?—I fancy they are; prisoners go in and out without drinking, or anything of that sort, and sit down great part of the day; they are more for the accommodation of the prisoners, than for any benefit or profit belonging to the persons keeping them.

Is the cellar-head open during Divine Service?—Yes; but we lock the gates from eleven to twelve during the hours of Divine Service; at other times I fancy, upon the average, the key turns about once a minute.

Can you give the Committee any idea what is the average number of prisoners you have had within the walls for the last three years?—The average number of prisoners within the walls and the rules never exceeds three hundred; perhaps there may be about sixty or seventy in the rules, and two hundred and forty or fifty in the prison.

Do you consider the prison sufficiently large for the accommodation of that number?

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number?—Certainly; I always considered the prison sufficiently large when the rooms can take more prisoners without inconvenience; our rooms are larger perhaps than any prison in the kingdom.

Does the chaplain attend on week days?—No; on Sundays, Christmas-day, and Good Friday.

Does he administer the Sacrament to many persons?—No, to very few; he is an excellent clergyman, and takes great pains; but they are not so careful of these things as they ought to be, and it is not in my power to make them otherwise; the prisoners, take them in general, are an idle disorderly set of men; they get into ill habits, getting into debt, and they are not particular about church or any thing else.

Is any work carried on in the prison?—Yes; there are many people that work in the prison; I permit all to work that can work, so that they do not carry on any trade that might lead to the furnishing escapes.

Is theft a common offence in the prison; do they steal from one another?—Yes; often the prisoners have a cryer to cry any thing that is lost or found, and I had a cryer of that description once, whom I detected in stealing for the purpose of crying it for the reward.

Do the prisoners take garnish from one another?—No; I never suffer that to be done; perhaps they may sometimes take beer from one another, but I never suffer it if I know it; it is prohibited by the rules of Court.

There are schools established in the neighbourhood for the children of debtors?—Yes; and if they send me down the names and ages of their children, I send them to school immediately, without expense.

Are there many children sent down to you?—Yes, a good many; some of the parents are more careful of the morals of their children than others.

Are you able to state how many of the seventy-seven children now in the Fleet go to school?—I cannot.

Do you suppose half?—No, many of them are too young.

Is there any allowance of food within the prison?—None.

Nor Coals?—No, nor Coals.

Is there any medical attendance furnished?—None; I have often applied in various ways, to have that defect supplied, but I never succeeded; I have thought it a hard case, that a prisoner should be on a sick bed, without any thing to assist him.

Have you, in point of fact, often assisted such a person, both in respect of medical advice and relief?—Yes, I have.

That has been out of your own pocket?—Yes.

There is an infirmary?—Yes.

There are two sick rooms, by the rules of Court?—There is only one now; there were two when the prison was in its ancient state; the prison has been burnt down twice; there is one large room now, with a boarded floor for that purpose.

Is that for men and women too?—The women never go into the infirmary, they always confine themselves to their own rooms; it is very seldom that the men go into the infirmary; I have one now, who is exceedingly lame, and I permit a person to sleep with him.

If any person dies in the prison, what becomes of the body till the interment?—I send for the undertaker to bring a shell, and it is put into a spare room, and there it remains till the coroner's jury attend, for there is always a coroner's jury to ascertain that no person comes to his death by unfair means.

You think yourself perfectly justified in removing the body?—Yes, not out of the prison, but out of the room; for there may be one or two other persons in the room; then after the coroner has held his inquisition, he gives me a warrant, which is given over to the friends of the parties, who bury the corpse, and if not, I do it at my own expense.

Does it often happen to you, to be at the cost of the funeral?—Not often.

Have you had many instances of death in the prison within the last year?—No; it is very seldom that any person dies in the prison, and it is very seldom that any of them are proper objects for the sick room, that was anciently appointed to put the disordered person into, to prevent infection in the prison; but I have

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disregarded that distinction; where I have found an object deserving of the sick room, I have sent him in without difficulty.

Is the prison visited or inspected by any persons from the Courts?—Yes; the court of Common Pleas, at my request, send an officer of their own before every term, four times a year, to look round the prison, and see whether there is any complaint to be made; it is one of the Secondaries of the Court, either Mr. Lodington, Mr. Griffiths, or Mr. Hewlett; they make a report to the Judges every Term, that they have visited, and that they find the rules and orders hung up in the prison, and easy to be resorted to; that was done at my own request; lately the prisoners used to complain grievously, and I requested the Court to send an officer to see how things were.

Does it not sometimes happen that a prisoner has no means of subsistence?—Yes, it does.

In what manner is he then supported?—The only way that he supports himself then, is by waiting upon his fellow prisoner, who pays him for cleaning his boots, making his bed, cleaning his room, and so on, together with the 3*s.* 6*d.* a week, the county allowance.

If a person does not pay his fees, is he chummed into a room?—A cabin is given him on the common side.

So that a person on entering the prison, unable to pay his fees, is immediately placed on the common side?—No, not immediately; I take care to see that he has a bed to go to that night; and if he cannot get any accommodation, if he makes application to me, I give him a cabin on the common side.

Do you remit many of the fees both on coming in and going out?—Often we find it necessary.

Can a person on the master's side have the county allowance?—Yes; they are almost all on the master's side; those on the begging grate have nothing to do with it.

There are other persons on the common side, are not there?—Yes; they have it if they apply; and can make the oath; there is no distinction between a prisoner for debt and a crown debtor, or an equity prisoner for contempt of Court.

The only difference between a master's side debtor and a common side debtor not admitted to the grate, is, that the one pays a rent for his room, and the other does not?—The one succeeds to a room in his own right, and has his chummage, the other does not; and by the ancient regulation of the prison, (for the Fleet prison is a very ancient one) I cause the bell to be rung at nine every night, to order the common side prisoners to separate themselves from the master's side prisoners, and go home.

Is that rule obeyed?—No, not often, but that is the intention of it; but they generally stay on the master's side, if they think proper.

Have you any authority to examine the bedding of the prisoners, and to order it to be taken out of the prison, in case it is dirty or unwholesome?—I have no authority to do so; but whenever I find it to be so, I take upon myself to order it, for it is better to remove that offensive thing than to let it remain in the prison; this very morning my turnkeys had a quarrel with a prisoner, on this ground; a man brought two blankets down and was beating them, it was represented to me that they were full of vermin, and I desired them, if that was the fact, to seize them and throw them into the water-tub; they did so, and he was extremely angry: There are many things obliged to be done within the walls of the prison, which the Judges could not foresee, and therefore could not provide for.

Is there any provision, to oblige the keepers of the King's Bench and Fleet to provide bedding for the prisoners?—Yes, there is such a provision, but it never has been complied with; the Warden never found any bedding, and the Judges excused him, because they said it would be attended with such an expense that the Warden could not bear it; the prisoners, in that case, would be wasting the Warden's substance, and selling the beds and blankets continually.

During the twenty-six years you have known the prison, no such bedding has been furnished?—No, nor long before; I do not think it ever has been done,

not

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not in the present Warden's time, and he has been Warden about sixty years.

How often is the prison whitewashed?—I generally have it whitewashed whenever it wants it, there is no stated period; there is an Act of Parliament compelling the county gaols to be whitewashed once a year, that does not attach upon the Fleet or the King's Bench; but whenever I see the galleries in a dirty state I order them to be whitewashed, and send in a memorial to the Treasury, stating what I want done; I generally send in one every three years and that is sent to the Board of Works, who send down to see what is done.

Had you a repair done last year?—Yes; I generally have one every three years; and if the white-washing wants doing before they come, I do it at my own expense.

Have you any means of enforcing cleanliness among the prisoners?—None.

What is the nature and extent of the rules of the Fleet?—The extent of the rules of the Fleet is but small; the Rule of Court was first made in James the First's reign, and it has not undergone the least alteration since that period.

Can you give the Committee a general notion of the circumference of the rules?—I should suppose it may be not above three quarters of a mile in circumference.

The streets immediately surrounding the Fleet?—The streets immediately surrounding the Fleet, except the market; it only goes down that side of the market next the prison; it takes in all Ludgate-hill, and goes up the Old Bailey, and then comes down Fleet-lane into Fleet-market.

What entitles a person to have the rules of the prison?—His giving sufficient security to the Warden, that the Warden may have some one to seek his remedy against in case of escape, and paying a commission of five per cent. upon the amount of his charge; or in case of the debt being large, I frequently take much less than the five per cent.; that is matter of agreement with the prisoner.

What is the nature of the instrument by which he secures the Warden?—A warrant of attorney with a defeasance declaring the purposes of that warrant of attorney.

What is the stamp upon that instrument?—Twenty shillings.

Does the amount of the duty vary with the amount of the security?—No.

What is the expense of preparing the instrument?—There is no expense at all; it is a printed form, filled up by my clerk.

The whole expense of the party then is, the twenty shillings stamp, the inquiry fee, and the five per cent. or such smaller sum as you chuse to take in composition, if the debt is large?—Yes; sometimes I do not take above two per cent. or one per cent., just as the person's ability may be; many handicraft men are desirous to go out into the Rules; they cannot pay more, perhaps, than the bond itself; and if they are industrious, and I think them deserving of consideration, I take a trifle from them; that is governed by the circumstances of the individual; if a man has a wife and a large family, I always take that into consideration.

The Belle Sauvage Inn is within the rules?—It is.

Are there many persons living there, and using that coffee-house?—Yes; in the King's Bench, all the coffee-houses and public houses are shut out of the rules, but there is no such provision in the Fleet; Mr. Justice Buller altered the rules of the King's Bench twice, and he shut out all public houses and places of amusement.

Is there any church or chapel within the rules?—No; there is one just without; we have a good chapel within our walls, and they may, if they chuse, come in to Divine service there; and if the church, standing at a small distance out of the rules of the Fleet, was put in, it might be considered inconvenient and not respectful to the parishioners; they might have an objection to going there, if the prisoners went there.

Have you any day-rules?—Yes, we have day-rules every day in Term time, that is, every day that the Court sits; there are three days in the year that the Court do not sit at Westminster, on those days I cannot grant day-rules.

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How are the day-rules procured?—By applying to me, and giving me security.

Of what nature?—A warrant of attorney, the same as for the rules.

At the same cost?—No; in many cases we do not take above 15 *s.* more than the expense of the stamp, and the inquiry fee.

What is the cost of the warrant of attorney?—The warrant of attorney is on a 20 *s.* stamp.

What is the ordinary expense of a day-rule to a prisoner?—Two pounds seven shillings for the whole, if the charge be under 500 *l.* including the stamp, and the inquiry fee; I believe we never take more than five guineas, sometimes three, just as the circumstances of the party are; it is generally left to the party himself; all these things must be optional.

In addition to this, there is 4 *s.* 6 *d.* payable each day?—Yes.

If a man is within the rules, you do not require a fresh security for the day-rules?—No; but he then goes out on day-rules only; a prisoner not within the rules, must give a fresh warrant of attorney to the office every Term he goes out.

Is there not another way of going out, by paying a tipstaff?—No, there is not, in our prison; it is the case in the King's Bench; but where I have found the sum small, for instance twenty or thirty pounds, if a man of decent credit and respectability has asked leave for such a one to go out, I have taken his word and let the man go, without any other expense than that of the day-rule, which is 4 *s.* 6 *d.*

To whose profit do the fees payable on the rules go?—To the Warden.

To whose account does the profit of the day-rules go?—The Warden has a shilling upon every day-rule, the clerk of the papers has 1 *s.* 10 *d.* and the secondaries of the Court of Common Pleas have 1 *s.* 8 *d.* making 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; those fees I believe are ancient fees; I found them in my office when I came, and they have been there I believe as long as the rules existed; there is no rule of Court for them that I can find.

Do the prisoners give dinners frequently at the Belle Sauvage coffee-house?—They frequently dine there I believe; whether they give dinners I do not know; but we have frequently men of great consideration within the rules of the prison, men of title and consequence; it is scarcely known to any but myself who pass through our gate.

Do persons frequently live at considerable expense, within the rules of the prison?—Yes, they very frequently do, and some within the walls too; I recollect one case of a person within the walls, whose servant I saw bringing in a pail of ice for which he had given half-a-crown, and which he stated was to cool his master's bottle of wine; and we have had another case of an Italian lady within the walls, who was kept by a gentleman out of the prison. Complaint was made that she did not pay for a bushel of coals, I sent for her down to the office, when she told me, she had but a guinea a day, and that it was as much as she could possibly do to live upon it. I told her, if she did not immediately pay the man (whom she had struck on his demanding the money) I would send her to the strong room, upon which she immediately put her hand into her pocket and paid him, and begged his pardon for striking him.

Do people in general live expensively within the prison?—Always; if they have the means they will live expensively; but that they would do if they were not in the prison, if they could get money.

Is the London coffee-house within the rules?—It is.

Do debtors live in the London coffee-house as they do in the Belle Sauvage?—Yes; gentlemen of the higher class go to the London coffee-house or the Belle Sauvage, as they please.

Lunæ,

Lunæ, 20° *die Martii*, 1815.

At The Fleet:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in the Chair.

Fleet Prison.

Mr. Nicholas Nixon.

Mr. *Nicholas Nixon* was again called in, and Examined.

BY whom were you nominated as Deputy Warden?—The Warden of the Fleet.

Have you a copy of the appointment?—It is in the hands of the Warden's Attorney, Mr. Thomas Holloway, of Chancery Lane; the Warden holds his office by patent from the Crown.

Do you often visit the prison yourself?—Yes, frequently.

Have you any stated times for visiting it;—No; but I do not like going in in the day time, because a great number of prisoners come around me, and they hold conversation; and then they consider one has a little more influence than another, and therefore I avoid that as much as possible.

Do you then visit it at night?—Chiefly at night; I go in to see all is quiet.

If you hear any great disturbance in the prison, do you make a point of going in?—No; because that disturbance takes place while the gates are shut; and I make a point never to open the gates after they are shut, except in this way, that a prisoner's wife may be in labour, and then I cause the gates to be opened to fetch assistance for her, or when any body is ill.

In case of a riot or disturbance, have you any person in the prison whose duty it will be immediately to quell it?—I have two Turnkeys in the prison, and they have my orders in case of disturbance to see and put an end to it; but we have never been called in to quell any disturbance, nor had I ever occasion to call a soldier in.

In case of a drunken disturbance in the night, are your Turnkeys authorized to interfere, and to shut up the coffee-room immediately?—No; they never are. We have never had any serious disturbance of that kind; the only disturbance that takes place may be a quarrel between two prisoners, which terminates in a fight, perhaps; and if a complaint is made the following morning, I punish the delinquent by committing him to the strong-room.

You do not consider your Turnkeys as authorized, if there are lights in the coffee-house and tap at a late hour in the night, to put out those lights, and to force the persons in the room to disperse to their bed-rooms?—I have never given them such order; but I have enjoined the masters of the coffee-room and the tap to shut up at a certain hour.

Is that obeyed?—It is often, sometimes it is not; because the prisoners will not let them turn them out; they quarrel with them if they attempt to turn them out. I am always cautious what authority I give to my Turnkeys, lest they should abuse it; they might go beyond my directions; and therefore I am cautious what authority I give them.

Do you attend Divine Service on the Sunday?—I do not; I go to the Parish Church; I attend Divine Service there.

Does your Clerk attend?—No, he does not; he does not reside on the premises, he resides in Fleet Lane.

Do the Turnkeys attend?—They do not.

Is there no officer on the part of the prison who attends?—No; the Turnkeys are often sent to drive away idle boys and people that are making a noise at the chapel door.

Do you make a point that those childen you send to school should attend Divine Service?—I have never enjoined them; I have only given the order for the admission to school, but I have never given an order to attend chapel; if I gave an order, it is likely the parents would not let them, out of opposition to my order.

You have indirect power to compel the attendance of those children at chapel?—Yes; and if they behave amiss I exercise it by locking them out of the prison.

But the non-attendance on Divine Worship you do not think a ground for that?—No.

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Is there any clerk in the chapel?—Yes; he is an old man, and has been here thirty years, and because he has been here so long, I gave the situation to him.

He is a voluntary prisoner?—He was discharged under an Insolvent Act, but he was committed here under a contempt of the Court of Chancery; but that contempt must have been long purged; the Bill must have been taken pro confesso; therefore he could only remain in custody for the costs of that Bill. Having taken the benefit of the Act of Parliament he goes into the Rules, and does as he pleases; I do not know that he goes out of the Rules.

The only thing he is in for is the costs of that contempt, in not putting in that answer?—Yes.

And how long has he been in for that?—Thirty years.

Has the chaplain any other emoluments than what he derives from you?—Yes; he has the two Compters of London; and I believe the City give him 100 *l.* a year for those two Compters.

Has he any other emoluments in this chapel?—No, none.

He has no fee?—No; by the ancient constitution of the prison, the chaplain was to receive fourpence from every prisoner every week, but he has received nothing in my time, and I believe for many years before, for Lord Loughborough said it was unreasonable he should receive it, and therefore it never was taken; but it is in the ancient fees of the prison, I see.

How long has your chaplain had the two Compters?—Very lately; he has Giltspur-street, and the Compter in the Borough belonging to the City; and he told me he could only do our duty till next quarter-day; and therefore I have appointed another to succeed him, who is Mr. Manley Wood.

What is the name of that prisoner who has been in so long, the clerk?—Thomas Williams.

You consider his staying in the prison voluntary?—Yes, I conceive so; I cannot conceive but he must have discharged the costs of that contempt; and the contempt itself must have been purged many years ago.

William Woodroffe was called in, and Examined.

William Woodroffe.

Are you clerk of the prison?—Yes.

It is a private appointment?—Yes, by Mr. Nixon.

You have no public situation in the prison?—No.

Do you manage the chummage?—Yes, I do.

Have you the chummage-book with you?—I have.

What number of rooms are there in the prison?—There are 109 rooms in the prison, 89 of which take chums; there are 15 rooms in the Hall, which do not take chums.

Why do they not take chums?—I cannot answer that question; it was a regulation before I came to the prison; they have never taken chums; they are darker rooms than the others, and some of them are rather damp, perhaps.

They are occupied by individuals?—Yes, and given away, not in the ordinary routine of the prison; they are given away to poor and distressed families; there are three slip-rooms.

How are they let?—They go in the ordinary rotation of the prison, but they have no chums on them; and they have no fire-places in them.

There are two others which have no chums in them?—Yes, one belonging to Thomas Williams; if any other person were in it, it would take chums as well as the rest; and there is one belonging to Captain Green, who has been here many years; he is blind, and a lunatic, therefore he has no chum.

But under other circumstances those rooms occupied by other persons would take chums?—Yes.

Explain the manner in which the prisoners are chummed?—When a prisoner comes into the prison, he stays as long as he pleases before he pays his fees; but when he does pay them, he has a part of a room given to him.

Suppose they do not pay their fees?—They remain in the prison, or go to the common side; if they ask for a cabin on the poor side, we give it; if they do not, we let them remain where they please.

A person on paying his fees receives a chum ticket?—Yes; on the following day.

Whether he applies or not?—Yes.

Are they chummed in rotation?—Yes, they are; we begin numerically; we begin at No. 1, in the Hall or lower gallery, then we go regularly through that; we

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William Woodroffe.

we then go to the coffee or second gallery, and fill that in the same manner; then the third gallery up two pair of stairs; and lastly, the top gallery in the same way; by a chum, I mean a second person placed in a room; the first person being called the owner.

Supposing that a vacancy happens in the lower gallery while you are in the second gallery?—We do not fill that till we come round again; then we take the vacancies numerically as they happen in the gallery; and fill those up, and so through the house.

When the prison is full, that is, when there is one person chummed in each room, if another prisoner comes in; what is your arrangement?—Then we put a second chum on the room next in rotation to the one, which had last a double chum on.

Is there no difference between the owner of a room and the chum in regard to their rights in the room?—None.

It is a mere difference of appellation?—That is all, and the master is the senior prisoner; the master may pay the chum out, or the chum may pay the master out.

Can any person come in without the consent of the two?—No, not in any room.

When there are two persons in each room throughout the prison, and a fresh prisoner comes in; in what manner do you chum him?—We chum him upon the next room in rotation to the one that last had a double chum.

Have you many prisoners that are not chummed, not having paid their fees?—I apprehend not.

If they have not paid their fees they go to the common side?—They go to the common side, or hire a place for themselves on the master's side.

Do you consider them as liable to pay their fees, if they are on the master's side as mere lodgers?—Yes, before they are discharged.

Then the Committee are to understand, you can call on them for the amount of fees, prior to their discharge, though they have not had the advantage of being chummed on a room?—Yes.

The mere circumstance of being a lodger on the master's side warrants you to demand the fees?—Yes; it is a fee on admission, but it is not demanded till the prisoner feels it convenient to pay it.

Being a lodger on the master's side, you consider him liable to the whole fees?—Yes.

How often do you receive the rent for the rooms?—We call for the rent once a quarter, every thirteenth week.

Suppose a prisoner does not pay at that time, what indulgence do you give him before he is turned out of his room?—Four or five weeks; never less than four weeks.

Are you often obliged to turn them out of the room?—Not often.

The menace often produces the payment?—Yes; it is not often necessary to threaten to turn them out.

Are prisoners sometimes allowed to change their rooms?—Yes; when a room becomes vacant by a prisoner's discharge, notice is given through the house, and any prisoner then possessing a room, is at liberty to make a claim; if there happens to be more than one claim for the same room, the senior claimant takes the priority.

What becomes, in that case, of his chum?—His chum remains on the same room as a chum, and the senior chum in the prison is appointed an owner of that room; and if there is a double chummage, then the senior double chum is appointed a single chum to the vacant single chummage.

If a man has fitted up a room rather in an expensive manner, is there any arrangement by which he can procure a particular prisoner to succeed to his room?—None.

In what mode is the furniture usually transferred when a prisoner goes out?—Each prisoner brings his own, or hires things for his use as he thinks proper; on quitting the room they take them with them, or sell them.

Is there any particular person to value them?—No; there are generally some persons in the prison who understand the value of furniture, and they apply to them for their judgment, or sell upon their own.

Is the practice of one prisoner letting furniture to another common in the prison?—I believe it is.

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Fleet Prison.

William Woodroffe.

Do you believe that the rule which the Deputy Warden has given in of the year 1796, specifying that no more than 8 *s.* 3 *d.* a week shall be paid for a room unfurnished, is generally obeyed through the prison?—I have no doubt it is sometimes evaded, unknown to the office.

If it is known, what do you do?—We take the room away from the person so letting at a high price.

Have you known that to be done?—Yes.

There is also another rule, that no greater sum shall be demanded for a room furnished than 15 *s.* 3 *d.*; have you reason to believe that is also evaded?—I believe it is, at times.

But if known to the office?—We take the room away as before.

And that event you have known happen?—Yes.

Are those rules known to all the prisoners?—They are posted in the coffee and tap-room, the most public places in the prison.

And must therefore be known?—Yes.

How are the persons on the poor-side supplied with furniture?—By bringing them, or hiring them.

Suppose a person has no furniture?—The Warden has hired on such an occasion, by chance, a bed and bedstead, and bedding; but I do not know that such a thing has happened above twice since I have been here, which is eight or nine years.

Then the charity of the Warden supplies the person who wants the bedding?—Yes, if such an instance occurs.

If a room with furniture is let for fifteen shillings a week to two prisoners, do they divide the rent?—The master pays the rent, if he lets the room, because he pays his chum no more than the house allowance, which is four shillings.

Supposing two persons occupy of him, how would they pay?—They would pay between them.

What is the house allowance for out-chumming?—Four shillings a week; when a chum pays a master out, or the master pays a chum out, they pay four shillings a week.

Do you believe a greater sum is often paid?—I dare say it is.

But upon complaint, what would be done?—The chummage would be take away from the person who did it.

Does it often happen for people to be detained here for non-payment of fees?—Very seldom, never above a day or two.

They are generally paid bv a charitable society?—By the Thatched House society generally.

You have not known a prisoner detained here for the non-payment of his fees longer than a few days?—Never more than two or three.

If the fees were not discharged by himself, or the charitable society, should you feel authorized to detain him?—I think the Warden would be authorized to do so; but he never does.

Then you know the Warden has remitted, under those circumstances, fees to prisoners?—Yes, I do.

James Malcolm was called in, and Examined.

James Malcolm.

Are you a prisoner in the Fleet?—Yes, I am.

How long have you been prisoner?—Since last April.

A Crown prisoner, or a prisoner for debt?—A prisoner for debt.

Have you any particular grievance to complain of that you have experienced?—The room-rent seems to be a very particular objection.

What is the amount of it?—It amounts to about 16 *s.* 3 *d.* a quarter.

In what respect do you conceive the room-rent to be objectionable?—It operates considerably with those who have but very little property when they come in here, and particularly when they may be supposed to be paying that which does not belong to themselves but to their creditors; and it often happens they have it not in their power to pay it; and the consequence is, that the room is taken away from them immediately, and where are they to go then?

Do you complain of the rule itself, or that more is exacted than the rule allows?—I complain of the rule itself.

Is there any inconvenience suffered by the prisoners within the walls of the prison, connected with the necessaries?—Most assuredly; in the first place we

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are often prevented from making use of them in consequence of the great number of strangers out of the market.

Can any stranger come in without asking for some particular prisoner?—Yes, they make a constant practice of doing it, on a Saturday particularly.

Do the Turnkeys let any person in who does not inquire for a prisoner?—It is impossible they can tell unless they were to inquire who they come to see; these people come in regularly in the afternoon, without any inquiries being made as to whom they come to see; and if they have occasion to go to the necessaries they go, and frequently they come in five and six at a time.

Can you state any means by which it could be remedied?—There should be another place in the prison; and if persons are to come in from the streets they should be confined to another part of the prison, then it would be obviated; but when those filthy butchers boys come in, there are no gentlemen who would like to sit down after them.

The necessaries belonging to the prison you mean are open and common to any butchers boys that can come in from the market?—Yes, without any interruption; and instead of the officers preventing them when they are applied to, and particularly the crier or scavenger, he says he has no orders to turn them out. It was only on Saturday last I spoke to him myself; there had been two or three people from the market each time I went out, and I endeavoured to turn one out; I called the crier to come and do it, and he said he had no orders, and could not do it.

Is there any person connected with the prison that has any interest in this abuse?—I apprehend not.

You are not aware of any fees being paid by the persons who have stalls in the markets, for the use of these places in the prison?—No, I am not.

Can you tell the Committee whether the state of cleanliness in which the prison was seen by the Members of the Committee last Friday is the ordinary state of the prison?—It is not; it has been in a state of preparation to receive you Gentlemen during the whole of last week.

What difference is there between its present state and the state in which it ordinarily is?—It was regularly swept every day last week; whereas once or twice a week was the most before; but in the summer, when I complained of it, it was not swept sometimes for a fortnight; and the Gentlemen at the top of the house were at the expense of having it swept and washed; and it swarms with insects; there is not a room up there but what is swarming with vermin.

In your room are there insects and vermin?—Yes, there are; and it is impossible to eradicate them because there are so many crevices.

How often are the rooms washed?—Only when the prisoner washes them himself.

Then each prisoner keeps his room in a state of cleanliness or dirt, which he thinks fit?—Yes.

Do you know how often the prison is white-washed?—I believe it has not been done for these three years; when I came into my room it was so filthy and dirty I was under the necessity of having it done myself, and I painted it.

Has it been white-washed since you have been in?—Not till within this last autumn.

It was white-washed last autumn?—Yes.

Throughout the prison?—Yes, but by having begun it late in the season it was but superficially done; in the latter part of it it was hurried over; and to my surprize I saw a large sum stated as the expense of the repairs of the prison.

As you have been here twelve months, what repairs have been going on in the prison besides the white-washing?—Painting, carpenters work, and some bricklayers work, and some stonemasons work.

A very general repair?—Yes; I believe there was some slating done also.

Can you form a judgment whether the sum you saw was more than the repairs would cost?—I think so, from having observed the workmen spent the greater part of their time in the tap and coffee-room instead of at their work; I could not but be satisfied that they were losing their time; the sum I saw stated was 1,900 *l.* I think.

Have you any other means of judging how much of this might or might not have been expended?—No.

Your only reason for fancying that the work for which that was charged was not all done was, that you saw them drinking in the tap?—It is impossible for me to

James Malcolm.

to say what was done; but as far as my judgment led me to believe with respect to the repairs going on in the prison; I was satisfied such a sum, or even half that sum, was more than ought to be charged.

Of your own knowledge, are there many riots and disturbances in the prison?—Continually; there is never a night passes without; if you had been here last night you would have been thoroughly satisfied.

At what time are the coffee-room, the cellar-head, and tap shut up?—They should be shut up at eleven o'clock, and as near that as they possibly can they generally are.

Generally speaking, you would say the rules of the Warden as to closing those rooms are observed?—Yes.

Then in what way do the prisoners get liquor in order to drink at night?—Before the tap closes they take what liquor they want into their rooms.

Is there much drinking in the rooms?—I do not know that there is; but there is a great deal in the coffee-room and tap.

Are you in the habit of meeting with many people drunk in the prison?—Yes; it is impossible to go there of an evening without seeing a great many drunk.

Do you know whether any spirits are introduced and drank within the walls of the prison?—I certainly know there are much spirits drank.

Are there any places in the prison in which spirits may be bought by persons applying?—Yes.

So that there is a species of gin-shop in the prison?—It is called here a whistling shop.

Are there whistling-shops known to exist in the prison?—Yes.

What is your business?—A Land Agent and Surveyor; I made the survey of the county of Surrey.

What do you pay to the coffee-house and tap for the beer?—Sixpence per pot.

What is the price of the same quality of beer outside of the walls?—Five-pence.

For what is the additional penny charged?—For the use of pots; every publican finds pots, and charges for pots.

If you bring your own pot do they then charge you sixpence?—Just the same; and if we take the pot to the cellar-head we have it then at five-pence, but they will not furnish us a pot at the cellar-head at all.

John Bates was called in, and Examined.

John Bates.

You are one of the Turnkeys of the prison?—Yes.

Do you admit every one within the walls of the prison who offers himself at the gate?—If they are sober.

Are you aware that it is the practice for persons of the Fleet Market to come to use the necessaries of this prison?—There are some who have been accustomed to use them, some fishmongers and butchers.

They come in for that purpose?—Yes.

They come in when they please?—Yes, but there are very few of them.

Do you let people in unless they come to speak to a prisoner?—Yes, we do sometimes, except when they are intoxicated, then we refuse them.

The Turnkey standing at the Gate opens it to every person that is sober indiscriminately?—Yes.

James Holt was called in, and Examined.

James Holt.

Are you a prisoner in the Fleet?—Yes.

How long have you been there?—Three years and four months.

Do you keep a shop within the Fleet?—Yes, I do.

What shop?—A chandler's shop.

By whom are you appointed?—By Mr. Nixon, I believe; but I do not know how the shops are appointed; two shops are allowed in the place.

Who gave you the permission to take that shop?—I had no permission from Mr. Nixon particularly; but it has been the custom for any person making the first application to get it.

Are those shops among the rooms upon which chums are placed?—Yes.

Did you pay any thing to your predecessor?—Yes.

What did you pay?—23 *l.*

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Fleet Prison.

James Holt.

Was that for goods he left?—For the fixtures, for the scales and shelves, and different things.

Was there any stock included?—No.

You paid nothing for good-will?—No.

What security had you that you would not be turned out of the room?—Not any at all.

Do you pay any thing to any body for the permission to keep that shop?—I have a room which is No. 2, in the Hall, and I pay the person I have this room from, 8 *s.* 3 *d.* a week, and give him my room beside; I have always understood it is a privilege they are allowed to take.

Are you the master of the room?—No; the owner of the room is one of the racket-masters, and he does not choose to keep this shop, but lets me or any one else take this room for the consideration of 8 *s.* 3*d.* per week.

Then you taking that room, let your own share of another room to another prisoner?—No; as soon as I came in I was entitled to a room or a chummage; it so happened I had a room; I give up that room for the shop I have; he takes my room, and I give him 8 *s.* 3 *d.* for the room where the shop is.

Why did he make his bargain rather with you than any body else, was it because you offered more money?—No, I happened to come in when there was an Act of Insolvency, and this shop was to let, I made an application for it, and those were the terms I understood it had been let on for many years.

Was any officer of the prison concerned at all in that arrangement?—No.

Did you pay any thing in the way of compliment to any person belonging to the prison?—Not to any person belonging to the prison; I paid a little compliment to the man, such as 2 *l.*, which is a kind of douceur that he expected of me.

What man?—The man who is the master of the room, who has nothing to do with Mr. Nixon or the prison.

Are the prices of the articles that you sell, the same as what are sold out of doors?—Generally, as near as we can possibly; if we do not keep them as low as we can the prisoners will go out of doors for all they can.

What business were you in before you came here?—I have been in the public business.

Are you supersedable?—No.

Do you expect to get 23 *l.* from your successor?—Yes, I expect to get the same money I gave for it.

Could you claim the benefit of the Insolvent Act?—Yes, I could do so.

Why do you not claim the benefit of the Insolvent Act?—I have no money to go into business with, and I am not a young man, and I was fearful lest I should suffer greater inconvenience; I suffer no inconvenience at all by remaining in.

What do you pay for porter here?—I always have mine from the cellar-head, and we pay at the present time five pence per pot.

Is that the price paid out of the prison?—Yes, I believe it is.

You send your own pot for it?—Yes; if we go to the coffee-room it is a penny more.

Why is it a penny more in the coffee-room?—I do not know the reason, I only know that it is so.

John Mac Gee was called in, and Examined.

John Mac Gee.

Are you master of the coffee-room?—I am.

Are you a prisoner?—Yes; I have been for near three years under a Commission of Bankruptcy.

What is the price you sell your porter at per pot?—Five pence is what I am allowed to sell it at, which is what I pay myself; some gentlemen give me sixpence, and others only five pence.

Do those gentlemen who refuse to give you more than five pence bring their own pots?—They use my pots, it is seldom they give me but five pence; most gentlemen give me sixpence.

What inducement can you have to sell porter for fivepence, if you give five pence for it?—I generally get sixpence; not one gentlemen in twenty ever refuses to give it; I have to find the place in coals and candles all but 10 *s.* a week.

Who allows you 10 *s.* a-week?—I am allowed 10 *s.* a week from the cellar head.

You

John Mac Gee.

You sell the porter from the cellar-head by commission?—I am appointed to the coffee-room from the office here, and I go down to the cellar-head for the porter.

And they give you 10 *s.* a-week for selling their porter?—I am allowed 10 *s.* a week to find coals and candles.

Is the circumstance of your taking a penny a pot known to Mr. Nixon?—I do not think it is, but it is a rule which has existed for years; it has been the practice to give a-penny a-pot more in the coffee-house to whoever keeps it.

By what appointment are you in possession of the coffee-house?—A person may send in a claim for it when it becomes vacant, if he thinks he cannot get out of the prison, and wants to make a livelihood; I was anxious to get it, even if I got but a shilling or two a day by it.

You pay nothing for it?—No; Mr. Nixon gives it to whom he pleaſes.

Mr. Nixon appointed you?—Yes.

Had you the recommendation of the person who keeps the cellar?—No; the person who keeps the cellar now, was not then in the prison.

Had you the recommendation of the cellar-keeper for the time being?—No; I had the recommendation of the man who kept the coffee-room before.

Did you pay any thing to that man?—Yes; I bought his pots and the glass that he had.

Did you give him any thing in the nature of compliment or good will?—No.

Nor any body else?—No.

Who does the room belong to?—It belongs to the prison; there is no rent for it.

What number of rooms are there?—I have No. 21, which adjoins the coffee-room, for which I pay rent at the office here of fifteen pence a-week; I pay nothing for the coffee-room.

Do you let any lodgings?—I live in my own room, and there are no apartments to let in the coffee-room.

At what time does the coffee-room shut at night?—Twelve o'clock.

Is that always the case?—Yes; it is seldom the coffee-room is open a minute afterwards, generally the people are away from half past eleven to twelve.

Is there much porter sold in the coffee-room?—Sometimes I sell 100 pots a day, or 200, according as the house is full.

Is there any order which prevents you from buying your porter where you please?—Yes; I should not be allowed to buy it out of doors; you may send for one pot of porter through the gates, but there is not more allowed to come in at one time.

What do you sell yourself, as a coffee-house keeper?—Nothing but wine.

Do you sell biscuits and cakes, and fruits?—Yes, and dress a beefsteak for a gentleman, if he wants it, and tea and coffee if it is wanted, provided they pay me for it; but I have been a fortnight together without cooking a beefsteak.

Do you sell much wine?—Not more than two or three bottles a week.

There is not much drank in the prison?—No; and those who drink wine send out for it; but there are not above three or four gentlemen who can afford to drink wine.

Is there much intoxication?—Very little indeed.

Was there much intoxication last night?—Not that I saw.

Was there no disturbance last night?—I did not hear of any.

Could any disturbance take place without your hearing it?—Yes, there might be some disturbance within four doors of me, and I not know it.

Then there might be drunken riots above stairs, and you know nothing of what is going on?—Yes, certainly.

There is a tap?—Yes, there is one down stairs.

There are no other places in the prison but the cellar-head, the coffee-house, and the tap, where they are allowed to sell beer?—No.

Edward Williams was called in, and Examined.

Edward Williams.

Are you a medical person?—Yes.

Physician or surgeon?—Apothecary.

How long have you been a prisoner?—Rather better than four months; I came here on the 8th of November.

Fleet Prison.

Edward Williams.

Since you have been in the Fleet, has there been much illness?—No, not considering the number of people.

How many persons are there at this moment ill within the prison?—Under my care there are only three.

Do you know of any other persons being ill in the prison?—There is a young man lately come in who is a practitioner, but I believe he does but little.

Do you attend those three persons gratuitously?—Yes, I have not received the least remuneration from them.

What means have you of getting them medicine?—I write for them; I had some medicines here myself, and I found them medicines, but found I could not afford it, as I have a family of eight children myself.

Are two of the three persons you attend persons in the infirmary?—One is in the infirmary, and one is in No. 11 at the top.

There are two persons in the infirmary who attends the one you do not?—I believe he is a medical man himself.

There is no medical attendant in the prison?—No; nor can the gates be opened of a night except in the case of midwifery.

Since you have been within the walls of the prison, have you known any person taken ill in the night so as to want immediate medical assistance?—Yes, I have, one case of miscarriage.

In case there had been no medical person within the walls, the person so wanting assistance would have been exposed to considerable danger?—No, I cannot say that; in young cases of miscarriages, persons are competent to assist themselves.

Is the present state of the prison in regard to cleanliness different from what it is generally?—It is generally very much in the state in which you see it; but I think it would be a considerable improvement if it was occasionally washed at the expense of the prisoners; it might be done by collecting a penny from each room; and I think it would be conducive to health.

Is that penny a week considered a voluntary payment?—It is not compelled.

The present state of the prison is not materially cleaner than it is commonly?—No; it is not.

There are no heaps of filth left unmoved?—No.

Do you consider the state of the prison, as far as cleanliness is concerned, injurious to health?—I think it would be more healthy if it had the attention paid it, which I have mentioned just now, particularly when there are many people who do not wash themselves very frequently; there was a case of a man dying here some time ago, I was called to him, he was in a room adjoining the sick room; I told the person attending I could do nothing for him, he was dying, and Mr. Woodroffe said, I believe, he has been attended by a Jew Doctor, who comes here, and he rang the bell for one of the officers to come in and know the truth of it; this man had been prescribing medicines for him who wanted the common necessaries; the man died the next day, but Mr. Woodroffe locked the Doctor out.

He came in professing to be a medical man?—Yes, he used to come in, bringing his nostrums to sell, he was immediately upon my representation locked out.

In what ways are the poor supplied with the necessaries they may want besides medicine?—I have never been on the poor-side at all.

Is there any assistance given on the master's side?—There is no relief except the sixpences.

Is there any nourishment?—No; no food whatever; there have been charities given, but I do not know how they have been disposed of.

You are attending a person in the Infirmary?—Yes.

How is that person supplied with necessaries?—I fancy his wife is here, and he is supplied to a small degree from what he makes by letting out the room.

He receives no assistance from the gate?—No, not except his sixpences.

Have you known many instances of distress and sickness?—No; if there are any peculiar cases of distress they go about with a petition; they relieve one another.

What happened with regard to this man who died by the medicines prescribed to him by the Jew Doctor?—I do not know that he died in consequence of the medicines he took, but he was improperly treated, I think.

You have mentioned it would be conducive to health that the passages should be washed?—I think so.

Fleet Prison.

Edward Williams.

Is there any suggestion you have to state to the Committee?—The keeping the rooms clean and ventilated, which there is every convenience for doing.

Are there more people living together in the prison than you think conducive to health?—I would mention the state of the morality in the prison; I was called in to a case of miscarriage, where the woman and her husband were in one bed, another woman and her husband were in another bed, and another man was in a bed by himself; of course they went out when I went to attend her.

This was not a particularly large room?—No, a common sized room; there are three or four sleeping in that room where the man is so bad with the rheumatic gout.

There is an Infirmary?—Yes.

Is it not within your own knowledge a common practice in the prison for several men and women to sleep in the same room?—I believe it has been often done.

Is there much noise and disturbance in the prison?—Yes, very frequently, which is very distressing to people of quiet habits.

From drunkenness, and from people of bad character?—Yes, both; there are men and women of bad character.

Is there any watchman?—The crier acts as watchman, and he cries the hour.

Are there any lights?—Yes; but they blow those lights out when there is any disturbance.

Was there any particular riot last night?—Yes; there was a sad noise, and a disposition to fight; there were some women who were very drunk.

In general there are a great number of women of bad character here?—In general there are too many; there is not money enough to maintain a great many of them: Mr. Nixon is certainly very humane, and very attentive, but he has not, I apprehend, sufficient power to punish and to suppress these riots and disturbances.

John Welsh, having offered himself as a Witness, was called in, and Examined.

John Welsh.

Are you a prisoner?—I am.

How long have you been a prisoner?—Six months; but I am now going out; I have got my discharge, and many of my things are removed, but I thought I was able to communicate something to the Committee, being an old prisoner.

What have you to state to the Committee?—I have to state in the first place, that one of the greatest grievances in this place is the disorderly and violent conduct of the prisoners.

In what particulars?—There are a set of men who come in here, and I am sorry to say it, though they have been apparently decent, it appears as if they left honour and integrity at the gates, and immediately commence the vagabond by associating with others of the same description.

What particular species of disorder do you complain of?—In the first place they exact very unjustly of their fellow prisoners.

In what way?—By threats; and by those threats, arising from different causes; if any exaction shall be made in the prices of the rooms, and a man shall dare to make a complaint to the Warden, whose ears are ever open to the complaints of the prisoners, that man is immediately treated most insultingly, and is in danger when he walks the place; I have (and that is known to Mr. Nixon) been ill treated twice, because I have stood forward to oppose the irregularities. Mr. Nixon has been kind enough to open the gate and give me the Rules, this he did on one occasion some time back, as well as on a late occasion; I have had 200 people hooting me through the place.

What was your situation in life before you came into the prison?—Originally I was a tradesman in London, a boot and shoe-maker; after that I became an officer under the Sheriff of Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, where I was high constable, and remained there many years.

Is there much drunkenness in the prison?—A great deal.

Is there much spirits drank?—They drink spirits privately; and I am sorry to state what I think a great evil, the drinking privately, which prisoners do here, and so they do in the Bench and in the Marshalsea.

Of course you have been both in the Marshalsea and in the King's Bench?—Yes, I have, not as a prisoner; but for the last ten years I have been employed principally in settling the affairs of men whose circumstances required a meeting of creditors, and so forth.

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Fleet Prison.

John Welsh.

Is there much quarrelling arising from drunkenness?—A great deal; there was one instance lately here, of a man who is now in the hospital, who was knocked down, and his skull fractured.

In those fights do the Turnkeys interfere?—The Turnkeys are below stairs, those quarrels are up stairs, and they do not hear them; if they hear them they are ordered to attend, but the force is not sufficient; I am decidedly of opinion that if Mr. Nixon had the same power as the Marshal of the King's Bench, to remove them to Newgate, it would cure the evils, for only this last week upon a very respectable man in this house, I saw a robbery committed, such as would have been a ground to indict the parties, and had they been brought to the Old Baily nothing would have saved them from being convicted of felony; the man was first put in fear, and afterwards the money taken from him.

In what way, in the nature of garnish?—No; it was a man of the name of Price who had been obliged to make a complaint to Mr. Nixon, of the exorbitant charges that were made for his room; Mr. Nixon, obeying the orders of the court, took the room from the parties who had oppressed this man; this was immediately communicated to the other prisoners within the walls, and there was a hue and cry immediately; the man could neither go in nor out of his room without being in danger; at last they prepared a mock trial; they had all the symbols of a court of Justice, constables and tipstaffs, &c. &c.; they condemned him; directed him to pay a fine of 20*s.* to the man he complained against, and ten gallons of beer; he refused to pay it, and they put a sack on him, and then the ordeal was to put him under the pump; they actually put the sack over him and drew him away; I had a friend of mine who dined with me, and we heard the noise, and got up to the window, when we saw the man acting as tipstaff, with a staff in his hand, holding Price by the collar, with threats, and the others were standing round him, and another man came up, whose name is White, he got 20*s.* of Mr. Price, and he was to return him 10*s.* for as they approached the pump, they mitigated the penalty from 20*s.* to 10*s.*

Were you near enough to hear this?—Yes; the 10*s.* was asked for, and they do not do these things secretly, but they are done aloud; there was a great clamour, but that clamour did not prevent my hearing, for I heard the man say I will get change and bring 10*s.* back, a person of the name of James Parry was with me at the time; after that they led the man away with a great deal of hooting, and then they turned the corner, and I saw no more of him; but I afterwards heard he was had into the tap-room, and the ten gallons of beer was had in, and they got terribly drunk.

Was Mr. Price present when the beer was drank?—I believe he was; but the man at the tap can tell you.

When did this happen?—I do not know whether it was Wednesday or Thursday last.

Did the Turnkeys, or Mr. Nixon, or the Crier, or any person belonging to the prison, interfere?—Mr. Nixon sent in the Turnkeys, as I am informed.

At what time of the day was this?—Two or three o'clock in the day.

Did the interference of the Turnkey stop the riot?—It did not, as I have been informed.

Is good order kept during Divine Service?—No, they are very irregular; there are many people who come in here and make a scoff, and act most disgracefully.

Have you ever been present yourself in the chapel when persons were so scoffing or disorderly?—I have been three or four times in the chapel, when the conduct of the prisoners has been disgraceful, they have been coughing, and holding down their heads, and laughing and acting like a parcel of boys.

Were you ever there when the clergyman had occasion to reprove any body for disorderly behaviour?—No.

Nor when the clergyman could not go on, on account of the disturbance?—No.

Have persons who are within the rules an opportunity of attending divine service?—Certainly, if they had a church to go to.

There is no place of worship within the rules to go to?—I am a member of the church of England, and I have no church to go to.

Why do not you attend within the walls of the prison?—On account of the disorderly conduct of the prisoners.

Fleet Prison.

William Woodroffe was again called in, and Examined.

William Woodroffe.

Do you know the prisoner who is just gone out?—I do.

Is he a quiet respectable man?—Yes, he is.

Is his general character that of an orderly, quiet, well-behaved man?—It is.

Perry Price was called in, and Examined.

Perry Price.

Are you a prisoner?—I am; I have been here now six weeks.

Was any outrage committed upon you in the course of the last week?—I do not know that I experienced any more outrage than any other person would.

What happened?—I wished to justify myself, but I did not do so to the satisfaction of the prisoners.

What was the charge against you?—The charge was a most false one; that I put on my shirt before a woman in the room; I entreated her to go out of the room, as I wished to dress myself before dinner; she said she would look out of the window opposite me, and therefore I could not offend her; I could not get her out of the room.

What followed in consequence of your not satisfying the prisoners?—They adjudged me to pay 10 *s.* and 10 *s.* towards porter, and then they used some violence against me to get it.

You resisted the paying this penalty?—I resisted it a moment, but I consented to pay it, and did pay it.

What violence did they use to you?—They took me out and put something over my head, a sort of sack.

Did they draw you towards the pump?—Yes.

Did they threaten to pump upon you?—Yes; but I gave them a 1 *l.* bill, and that satisfied them.

Do you know what became of the bill?—No; no part of it was returned to me.

Ten shillings of it was expended in beer?—So they said.

Had you any part of the beer?—No; I never saw them afterwards.

Did you make any complaint to the officers of the prison?—No, I thought there was no remedy.

You had a sort of mock trial?—Yes.

Did you make any complaint relative to your room to the Marshal?—No; I never went to make any complaint.

Was it understood by them you had so done, and in consequence they made you pay that penalty?—Yes; and Mr. Nixon heard of it, I understood, and wished to give me redress.

Was there any other cause alleged for the violence used against you, except the charge of having taken off your shirt before a woman?—No.

Nothing said as to the excess of payment of room-rent?—No; but Mr. Nixon saw my account, and said I was excessively overcharged; but I had no remedy.

Did you make a complaint to Mr. Nixon?—Yes.

Was your making this complaint part of the cause of your being so ill treated?—It is very probable it was.

Was it mentioned at the time of the outrage offered to you?—No.

Did not they mention it at the trial?—No, they only charged me with that offence about the shirt.

There was no mention made of the complaint about the room?—No.

Did they charge you with any thing else than with respect to the shirt?—No.

Did you think it was a pretence, and that the real offence was your complaining about the rent?—No; I went to this trial voluntarily, I sought it.

To whom do you pay the 5 *s.* rent?—To a person of the name of Felbrooke.

Was he concerned on this mock trial?—He was the only evidence against me.

Is that species of trial common within the walls of the prison?—I never was within these walls before.

Since you have been here has any other person besides yourself been tried?—I have heard there have; I do not know of any body.

Is it common for prisoners to suffer outrages one from the other in the prison?—I know as little of the prison as you do.

When you wanted this trial in order to establish your innocence against the charge which had been made against you, to whom did you apply to have that trial?—

Perry Price.

trial?—I mentioned it to five or six who were in company with me the night before.

Then you knew it was the custom of the prison?—No I did not.

Then what made you think of a trial?—Merely to set forth my defence.

——— *Jurgensen* having offered himself as a Witness, was called in, and Examined.

— Jurgensen.

Are you a prisoner?—Yes, I am.

Have you any complaints to make?—No, except that the prisoners are irregular, the Marshal has not authority enough to keep them in order.

You have no complaint to make as affecting yourself, but only the general complaint of riot and irregularity?—No.

Have you received any injury from the prisoners?—No, but others have; they have been pumped on, and when the Marshal has gone in he could not afford them any redress; the Marshal cannot get at the offenders, it is out of his power.

Have you seen people pumped upon?—Yes, but only twice; I have seen people taken half way to the pump; they have paid money; the Marshal sends in constables to prevent it sometimes, but it comes too late.

Do not the Turnkeys interfere?—They do sometimes, if there is not too great a mob; it is the best prison I have ever seen in my life.

William Marrington, having offered himself as a Witness, was called in, and Examined.

W. Marrington.

What have you to state to the Committee?—There are several poor prisoners in the house, and they wish me to petition that some person may sell table beer, they want something cheaper than porter; they cannot get porter, and if they could have any thing cheaper they would like it better, and they want me to petition that they may have some table beer.

Has any application ever been made to Mr. Nixon on the subject?—I have been informed it was not agreeable sometime ago for the chandler shop to sell beer, and I said I would not attempt to sell it till it was finally arranged that I might.

You keep a chandler's shop?—Yes.

And you wish to have leave to sell table beer to the prisoners?—Yes.

Would not it be better to have it sold at the cellar-head?—I do not know.

You are a prisoner?—Yes.

How long have you been a prisoner?—Ever since the 18th of May.

Did you purchase the stock in the room you now inhabit?—Some friends of mine did.

Of the person who went out?—No, the person is in now.

What did you give him for the good-will?—I gave him 20*l.* for the fixtures and good-will.

Was any more paid to any body else?—No, only I took the stock at what the value of it was.

Had any of the officers of the prison any thing to do with the arrangement?—No, they had nothing to do with it; they never spoke to me about it.

They had no part of the money?—No, the man had it to himself.

Were you a chandler before you came in?—Not in the line I am now.

Did you sell small beer in the line you were in?—No, I was in the country then.

Joseph Wilkes was called in, and Examined.

Joseph Wilkes.

Are you one of the turnkeys?—Yes.

Is it the practice of the turnkeys to let beds to the prisoners within the walls?—At times when there is any body comes who cannot accommodate themselves by bringing their own beds; I have two beds in my own room, besides accommodation for my own family.

You let the bed and the room?—No, I only let the two beds occasionally.

Out of the room in other apartments?—Yes.

Do you let them the bed and the room too?—I have two beds in my room which I let to prisoners to sleep there.

Fleet Prison.

Joseph Wilkes.

Do you, or do the other turnkeys, furnish beds to prisoners?—Yes, my fellow-servant, Key, lets one.

You do not yourself?—No.

What do you charge for your own beds?—If they take a bed for a week in Term time, I have charged 14 *s.* for fire and candle, and waiting and attendance, and every thing wanting, and out of Term time I should not charge him more than 10 *s.* 6 *d.* inclusive of every thing except victuals.

What does your fellow-servant ask for his bed?—I do not know, for I never asked him.

You do not let any bed yourself in that way?—No.

John Bates was again called in, and Examined.

John Bates.

Do you let out beds occasionally for prisoners?—Yes, when they first come in.

Do you make a bed in the room you occupy?—No; I let out the bed in the rooms where it is convenient to have a bed put in, as furniture.

What do charge per night, or per week?—If it is a large bed, we charge 7 *s.* per week; I paid more than that sixteen years ago, when I came in as a prisoner.

What do you charge for a small bed?—A single bed, 4 *s.*

You find sheets and bedding, and every thing?—Yes; washing and towels, and those conveniences for them.

The 7 *s.* includes bedding of all description and towels?—Yes; and all attendance; and we let them have things for breakfast, if they have a friend to see them: I have a daughter, who waits on them occasionally; my two brother officers have a room in the inside: I am the junior turnkey, and have not the opportunity they have.

They can let people their rooms?—Yes, if there is room to spare, in which I can put in a bed, I do; and the expense of taking it there and moving it back, takes a great part of the profit away from me.

Martis, 21° *die Martii*, 1815.

At the Marshal's House, in The King's Bench Prison:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in The Chair.

King's Bench Prison.

William Jones, Esquire, was again called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

HAVE you any Statement to make to the Committee?—I think it my duty to state to the Committee, that I found out on Saturday last, that the very offensive smell which the Committee found on Thursday last in the back part of the prison, proceeded from a newly-erected manufactory, for the purpose of extracting some ingredient from sugar for the purpose of colouring spirits; I immediately sent for the manufacturer as well as his landlord, and remonstrated with them for introducing such a nuisance so close to the prison, and told them that unless it was wholly removed, I should feel it my duty to prefer a bill of indictment against them at the ensuing assizes for Surrey, when they gave me a positive assurance that the nuisance should be removed; if it is not, I shall certainly institute a prosecution, and have it removed.

I wish further to make a representation of the state of the King's Bench Prison in Michaelmas Term 1813, and the Marshal's offer of giving the Rules gratis in order to relieve the prison. In Michaelmas Term 1813, the prison became so full in consequence of Lord Redesdale's Bill, that I felt it my duty to make a representation to the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, stating that it was absolutely necessary that something should be immediately done for the relief of the place. His lordship was so good as to pay immediate attention to my representation, by bringing in an Insolvent Act, which was passed through both Houses of Parliament, and received the Royal Assent in a very

King's Bench Prison.

William Jones, Esq.

very short time; by which Act between five and six hundred prisoners were very soon afterwards discharged. In order to relieve the prison, pending the passing of that Act, I published the following paper in the prison; viz.

"King's Bench Prison, 7th December 1813.

"Such persons as have been committed for debt to this prison previous to the sixth day of November last, and have behaved themselves with propriety and decorum since their commitment, may (if deemed proper objects) have the liberty of the Rules, on finding proper security, and paying only for the stamp for such security; application to be made at the Marshal's office by letter, containing the names of the sureties proposed, which will be immediately attended to."

A great many persons availed themselves of this offer, and were permitted to go into the Rules without payment of any fee whatever.

[Mr. *Jones* delivered in,—An Account of the Number of Deaths within the prison, from the 1st of August 1804, to the 31st July 1814, both inclusive;—and also,
A Return of the amount of Fees paid by each prisoner on commitment and discharge, pursuant to the order of the Committee; and also,
Certain Rules of the Court.]

Are those Rules of Court now in effect?—Yes.

By those Rules you govern the prison?—Yes.

[Mr. *Jones* delivered in an Account of the average gross and net amount of Fees received by him, as Marshal.]

Is there not, in addition to the 160 *l.* rent for the coffee-house, an annuity paid to a former possessor of it of 20 *l.* a year?—There is.

In the event of her death, would you take that addition of rent from the present coffee-house keeper?—I certainly should not, as he is a good and faithful servant, having lived in my service for twelve or thirteen years, and having lived with my predecessor for six years before that time.

Are you liable to any pecuniary fine for the escape of Crown prisoners?—I certainly am; I am liable to the payment of such fines as they are charged with; the prisoner is to be imprisoned till his fine is paid, and if he escapes before it becomes payable, that is at my expense; if he is imprisoned, not subject to a fine, a fine may be imposed upon me for his escape, as a punishment.

There is another Statement which it is my particular desire the Committee will receive and put upon their minutes. As it is impossible for me to know whether any charges have been brought against me before the Committee, I trust that in case any have, I may be informed of them, and have an opportunity given me of answering them: if I have had any fault in the management of this place, it is that of having conducted myself with too much lenity and humanity towards those under my care.

Though I have averaged the room-rents in my return at 390 *l.* a year for the last 3 years, yet that average is higher than it ought to be, as the three last years were very good ones; but taking it at 390 *l.* even at that rate I might have enforced the payment of 510 *l.* a year by the rules and regulations of the place; so that I have given up in room-rent alone, since I have been Marshal 120 *l.* a year, which, in 24 years would amount to 2,880 *l.* What I have given up by commitments, and particularly by discharges, during that period, would amount to a very large sum of money, exclusive of giving the liberty of the Rules to immense numbers without taking any fee, and exclusive also of the relief I have afforded to proper objects of charity.

I am aware that the Public have been led to believe, that the emoluments of my office must be immense, from the comfortable manner in which I live, and the establishment which I keep; but the public are not aware, though I wish it to be known, that I have an independent fortune, sufficient to answer any escapes that may happen, exclusive of what I get from my office, and of a larger annual amount; and lest it should be supposed that that fortune was acquired in this place, I will state to the Committee how I came by it.

I was

King's Bench Prison.

William Jones, Esq.

I was worth very near 10,000 *l.* when I quitted my profession of the law 24 years ago, and accepted of this situation. I got between 30 and 40,000 *l.* by the deaths of my father and brother, in Wales. I bought the reversion of between 9 and 10,000 *l.* Consols for 2,200 *l.* subject to the life of a lady, who only lived to receive half-a-year's dividend. I got 60,000 *l.* by the purchase of two Estates lying together in Norfolk, one of which I bought from Sir Francis Burdett for 10,000 *l.* which is now worth little if any short of 40,000 *l.* so that I have a large independent fortune, which enables me to act with more liberality in this place than a person who was not so circumstanced would have it in his power to do. My office for the first 12 years certainly did not average net 2,000 *l.* a year; but it has gradually risen from that time to what it now is, owing to the pressure of the times, and I believe in a great measure owing to the frequency of Insolvent Acts; but my annual expenses for the last 12 years have also increased in proportion; and I can with great truth declare that those expenses have far exceeded the profits of my office. I have had eight children within the last 10 years, and if that had not been the case, I would not have continued in this office so long as I have done; and my only reason for keeping it any longer is my wish to make a provision for my younger children. I have laboured hard for 45 years, and thank God, have laboured successfully, without any kind of imputation upon my character or conduct in any way whatever.

As Marshal of the prison, what repairs are you called upon to do?—The sewers very often want cleaning; and there are repairs of different sorts; I never like to trouble Government, unless it is for something substantial.

By the 27 Geo. II. chapter 17 and clause 17, the prison of the King's Bench is to be kept in repair by and out of the fees incident to the office of Marshal; what repairs do you do under that clause?—All necessary repairs about the roof, or any thing that may be wanting.

In the last year the Government laid out the sum of 4,493 *l.*?—I believe they did; I do not know the particulars myself.

What was done?—There was a great deal, particularly the road at coming down; I had been a length of time getting it done, for it was extremely dangerous in a dark night; a wall has also been built behind; the whole of the staircases were white-washed; and there is a little wanting to the roof now.

Was that done by the Government or by you?—All done last year, was by Government.

How long ago is it since the prison was white-washed?—I believe it is three years since the rooms were white-washed; but the staircases were white-washed since August last.

At whose expense?—At the expense of Government.

How do you reconcile that to your answer as to the white-washing of the staircases and the prison three years ago?—The Government did it three years ago.

Do you not consider the white-washing of the prison to come under the clause just referred to?—I do not know; but I will take care the prison is white-washed in the present spring, as soon as the rooms get a little empty.

Are the repairs done on the part of Government by contract or by day-work?—I do not know; it is done under the direction of the Surveyor General by the Office of Works.

How is the demand for repairs made?—By petition to the Treasury from me, whenever any repairs are wanted.

By a return signed by you, made to the order of the House of Commons, the number of prisoners in custody on the 1st of December 1814, was 837; how many of those do you think were within the walls of the prison?—I really do not know.

Were there about six hundred?—Probably; but it is impossible for me to tell, I gave the Rules to so many.

Do you remember whether the prison was remarkably full at that time?—Yes, it was.

Supposing that number to be generally within the prison, should you think the prison large enough to contain them?—No; no such thing, nor any thing like it; whenever I find the prison very full, I am obliged to give the Rules to all those that can find security to me; if I had not that power of giving them the Rules in that way, I should have the prison too full a great deal; the prison is not capable of holding 600 persons.

King's Bench Prison.

William Jones, Esq.

Under those circumstances you give the Rules gratis?—I do; the parties paying only the 20*s.* stamp. At the time I wrote the letter to Lord Ellenborough, which has been referred to, there were more than 837; I do not think the prison is capable of holding more than 500.

Do you find yourself enabled, at all times, to relieve the prison sufficiently, when it is over-pressed by prisoners, by giving the Rules?—I think I can; It does relieve the prison very much.

Did you on the occasion you have referred to, relieve the prison sufficiently?—Yes, I did; and with that relief, I think I should be able to do very well; but I hope I shall never see so many now that there is peace, as there have been during the war.

You have stated that a fee is paid on each Day Rule, to the amount of 4*s.* 2 *d.*; what other charge is there to enable a person to have a Day Rule?—A debtor makes his own terms with the tipstaff, the tipstaff giving me a receipt for his body, and becoming answerable for every one he takes out.

Do you know what those terms are?—I do not; there is another mode of proceeding, where a person is charged with above 600*l.* I require some security if he wishes to go out upon Day Rules.

Of what nature is that security?—A bond for a large sum; and for that we generally charge three guineas, that is 20*s.* for the stamp, and two guineas for the filling up and executing the bond, and the fee; three guineas is the general fee; but there are very few who give bond.

Are there any beds or bedding found by the Marshal in the prison?—None at all, nor never have to my knowledge, since the prison was rebuilt; I know they have not been by my predecessors.

The prison was destroyed in the riots of 1780?—Yes, it was.

Was this change as to the finding of bed and bedding introduced by a rule of Court?—I do not know indeed, it was so long before my time; I found none when I came in here, and none has been provided since I came.

Were new rules promulgated by the Court on the rebuilding of the prison?—I have no other rules than those I have delivered in, I have governed the prison by those rules.

Is there any permission of absence granted either by you or by your inferior officers of the prison for a less time than a Day Rule, and which is by them called "a run of the key"?—Not by me, nor by my concurrence; but I am afraid that sometimes indulgences of that sort have been granted by some of my officers, wholly unknown to me.

When you have found it out, what steps have you taken as to the officers who permitted it?—I have remonstrated against their suffering any body to go out without giving me security; and told them that they were acting very improperly, and threatened, that if I should catch them at it again, I would discharge them.

Has that recently happened?—Not very recently; I suspected last year that they were letting some people out, and I took them to task about it.

Have you in any instance dismissed a Turnkey for such a practice?—No, I have not.

Can you state to the Committee whether you have had any escapes besides that of my Lord Cochrane within the last year?—No, I cannot.

Has there been no person reported to you to have escaped from the prison within the last month?—No, there has not; there may have been such a thing.

No one has reported to you that such an escape has taken place?—No; certainly not.

Edmund Henry Lushington, Esq. was called in, and Examined.

E. H. Lushington, Esq.

Are you visitor to the King's Bench Prison?—Once in the year it has been the custom for those in my office to come here, and once only.

Did you visit it last year?—I did.

Is it customary to make a written report of the state of the prison?—I do not know that it is customary to make a written report always; if any thing particular strikes a visitor, then a written report is made.

Was such report made last year?—Yes; such report was made by me last year.

Can you state to the Committee the contents of that Report?—I have endeavoured to find a copy of it, but cannot; I can state pretty nearly the substance of it.

E. H. Lushington, Esq.

Is that recorded in the Court?—No, it is not; it was delivered by me to the Judges, and I fancy delivered by them to Mr. Justice Dampier, the junior Judge.

Have the goodness to state to the Committee your recollection of the substance of it?—Generally speaking, that there was no complaint, but that on going up some of the staircases, there were some parts out of repair; there was one thing struck me particularly, there is money collected, and there are charities for the prisoners on the common side. There are some old rules as far back as 1729, that no prisoner for any criminal charge shall have any share of those, and that a book shall be kept, stating what is collected, and that a list of the charities shall be stuck up in a conspicuous part of the prison; on enquiring about this I found there was no book, that the person who had the collection of the charities, and their distribution, was a man who was committed on a criminal charge as a bankrupt, who refused to answer properly to the Commissioners; I desired, that a book might be kept, and I reported these circumstances to the Judges.

Do you remember whether the name of that person was Ledwell?—I think it was; I do not recollect that there was any other circumstance.

You did not make any report as to the want of an Infirmary?—No, I did not; I went round in what I understood to be the usual manner; enquired whether there was any complaint, and found there was none.

Your visit was to ascertain whether the existing rules were observed?—Just so.

Did you enquire whether the Fees taken at the gate were agreeable to the rules, or whether there had been any deviation?—I do not remember making any enquiry upon the subject.

Are you aware whether any order was given, or any measures taken by the Judges, in consequence of the report you made?—I am not aware that there is; I think it was given to Mr. Justice Dampier, who has been very ill for some time past; being the first visit I made, I requested gentlemen who had been long in the Crown Office, Mr. Barlow, the Secondary, and Mr. Dealtry, the Clerk of the Rules, to accompany me, that I might learn what had been done by my predecessors, and what was considered my duty; we went round, and in different public places, and in the rooms, somebody stated aloud that I came to inquire if there was any complaint, and nobody did make such complaint; and in some instances I asked, myself, is there any complaint? are you satisfied? and they appeared to me cheerful and contented.

Was it announced before-hand that you were coming?—I had understood that it was the practice, and I conclude it was done; but I cannot speak to it.

It was on Holy Thursday you visited the prison?—It was on the stated day.

[Mr. *Lushington* delivered in certain Rules of Court made in 1723.]

I think there is another circumstance; I mentioned to the Judges that the copy of rules I have now delivered in was not stuck up, and that it might be proper they should be; some of them are obsolete.

Edmund Boid was called in, and Examined.

Edmund Boid.

You act as butcher in this place?—I do.

How long have you been a prisoner here?—Nine weeks last Saturday.

How long have you sold meat in the prison?—About seven weeks.

Do you pay any consideration for the permission to sell meat?—I pay 3 *s.* a week for the stall, and a shilling to the scavenger.

In what way was the money originally demanded?—The man that held the shop, says he built it, and he keeps it as his own property, and therefore I rent it of him.

Did you apply to him, or he to you?—I applied to him; the shop was shut up; I wanted to earn something, having a wife and four children inside.

Had you been a butcher before?—Yes, I have been a butcher in Mary-le-bone almost all my life-time.

What did the man tell you?—He told me it was the rent it always went at; which I knew before; it was a cheesemonger had it.

Did he tell you of the shilling to the scavenger?—No; I believe he did not.

How did you know that there was a shilling to be paid to the scavenger?—Because I knew they came every Sunday morning for it, and the man told me

King's Bench Prison.

Edmund Bond.

he would come and pull the stall down if I did not pay it; he is a watchman outside.

Does he receive of all the rest having stalls as well as yourself?—He has, for many years, so far as I can learn.

The same price?—Yes; that is the common price.

Are all the persons holding stalls, prisoners?—No; there is a woman of the name of Ringer who sells green-grocery, is no prisoner; there is Freeman, a butcher, is no prisoner; there is Pearce, an old man, a butcher, who is no prisoner.

Do you know of your own knowledge how those persons came to be allowed to sell articles in the prison?—Formerly, I believe some years back, they were prisoners. Freeman was a prisoner some years back.

Do you know what they pay for the liberty of selling?—This stall of Freeman's is his own, he built it some years back; and when he does not keep it himself he lets it.

Do you know what he pays for the privilege of keeping it?—He pays only a shilling a week, the same as we do.

Do you sell your meat at the same price within the prison that it is sold at the market?—Yes.

Do you pay any thing for its admission into the prison?—No, nothing.

Is it considered a hardship in the prison that persons who are not prisoners should have stalls?—Yes, we consider that a hardship; there are two young men who are butchers, who are nearly starving, who wish to have stalls, but there are none for them, in consequence of stalls being held by those who are not prisoners.

William Jones, Esq. was again called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

Is any thing paid for the stalls within the walls of the prison?—No; I never heard of any thing being paid to any body.

Have you ever heard of the scavenger collecting a shilling a week for the stalls?—No; I always encourage competition, and strangers coming in, so as to keep things good and cheap; and if any persons sell a bad commodity, I prevent their selling any more.

Are there not persons, who are not prisoners, keeping stalls within the prison?—I believe there are; and I should be very glad if there were a great many more, it would be so much the better for the prisoners. I will encourage any one to come there; but I do not know of any thing being taken; if they do give the scavenger a shilling now and then, it is not known to me.

You do not know that it is the constant practice of the scavenger to go round weekly and collect a shilling?—I do not know of their having any perquisite of that kind.

Have you ever heard of their threatening to pull down the stalls, if that was not paid?—No, I never heard of any thing of the kind; but they dare not touch one of the stalls without my permission.

William Freeman was called in, and Examined.

William Freeman.

Are you a prisoner in this prison?—I have been, but I am not now; I am at liberty now.

How long have you been at liberty?—Between three and four years.

Do you keep a stall to sell butchers meat in the prison?—Yes, I had a little stall built when I was here.

Have you kept it ever since?—Yes, on and off, all the while; having an illness of urine during these six or seven months.

Who had it during those six or seven months?—A countryman of mine, who was a prisoner here; I let it to him during the time.

For how much did you let it?—For 4 *s.* a week.

Do you pay any thing to the scavenger?—A shilling a week.

Is that regularly collected?—Yes; and has been ever since I was here; I have been in the habit of coming here, unfortunately, for six years.

You have known that shilling collected every week for these six years?—Yes.

Do you know whether all the other stalls pay the same?—I believe thereabouts.

Do you sell your meat at the same prices as it is sold out of doors?—Yes, I sell at less money than it is sold at out of doors; and I sell the best meat.

Have you any shop out of doors?—I have not now; I had once.

Christopher

King's Bench Prison.

Christopher Morris.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

Have you had any body escape from this prison lately?—Lord Cochrane.

No one except Lord Cochrane?—No.

The Committee is to understand, no one has escaped from this prison except Lord Cochrane?—There were persons escaped some time ago.

What do you call some time ago?—Five or six years ago.

Did you know a man by the name of Underwood?—Yes.

Relate the circumstance of Underwood's discharge?—It is said that he has escaped; but I do not know that he has; he is discharged from the Debt.

Do you not know that enquiries were made within the prison after Underwood?—Certainly there were.

What night did he go out of the prison?—That I cannot tell; I am told it was on the Sunday night.

How long ago?—I suppose a month, but I do not know exactly.

Did you search after him in consequence of his being supposed to have gone out on Sunday night?—Yes; of course we looked after him.

Did you find him?—No.

Do you know that he has ever gone out since?—No, I do not know that he has.

Did you make any report to any one on his being missing?—It was reported to us by the prisoners that he was missing.

Did you report it to Mr. Brooshooft?—I told Mr. Brooshooft, certainly.

What was done in consequence?—We sought after him, but we have not found him.

How soon after that was he discharged?—I do not know exactly, whether the discharge is here or not; but I understand the action is supersedable, and that the gentleman will give a discharge, it is an action of no consequence.

Do you mean that it is a friendly action?—I do not know indeed; but I dare say I can have the discharge by going for it.

Was Underwood here as a pressed man, or as a person that had entered on board the tender?—That he had entered, I believe; either pressed or entered.

Do you know whether there was any security given at the gate, or by the Marshal to the officer of the tender, for the delivery of the body of Underwood as soon as his debt should be paid?—I do not know, indeed.

How soon did you know of the escape of Underwood?—The next morning; it is very soon known amongst them.

Who told you?—I cannot justly say, so many coming.

Does the Marshal now know that Underwood has escaped?—No; I do not think he does.

How came you to tell the Committee that no one had escaped for six years besides Lord Cochrane?—We did not know that he had for a certainty.

Did you know it at the time you came into this room?—No.

Do you know it now?—I do not know but he may be in the prison, and may be denied, and so may Lord Cochrane.

Have you received his room-rent within this month?—No; he was chummed out on a man by the name of Dunn.

Having had reason, a month ago, to believe that this man had escaped, have you ever made such a search in the prison as to enable you to say positively, whether he is or is not in the prison?—We have no occasion to search, for it is so well known without search, they talk it all about; and if you were to go to the room to look for him you would not find him.

How soon did you communicate to Mr. Brooshooft that he was gone?—The next morning.

Who are the persons in the prison who take any fee or gratuity for granting what is called a run of the key?—I am sure I do not take any.

Do you know whether that practice exists?—No; it does not.

The practice of allowing persons to go out on a run of the key does not exist?—They are not allowed now any thing of the kind.

How lately were they allowed?—The Marshal made a piece-of-work about it last summer; he does not allow it.

Do you undertake to say that no person has gone out to your knowledge, upon a run of the key, since last summer?—There is one person who goes out at times; he is ill; he is a hair-dresser.

Upon whose permission?—Mr. Brooshooft's.

How

Christopher Morris.

How often does that man go out?—He has been laid up three weeks.

Has he been out within this month?—Yes.

Who receives the fee?—He does not pay any fee.

Does a man of the name of Lewis go out?—Yes, Dr. Lewis goes to Mr. Harrison's the Solicitor, in Lambeth Road.

By whose permission?—Mr. Brooshooft's.

Is Dr. Lewis in for debt, or under sentence of the Court?—For debt; 1200 *l.* I think.

Do you know of any other person who goes out?—Yes; there was a lady used to go out, who has a great family of children, Mrs. Thornborough.

How long ago?—She has been out within the last month; she has been out several times on account of her large family; Mr. Brooshooft gave her permission to go out; he is desirous of getting her out.

Is Mr. Harrison's in Lambeth Road, within the Rules?—Yes, It is.

Is there anybody else?—I do not recollect any others; there used to be several, but the Marshal made a-piece-of work about it, and stopped it; somebody wrote to him and informed him of it.

Do you know, or do you not, that any person receives a fee for these runs?—I do not, upon my word, know any body that receives a fee.

You are peremptory in that answer?—Yes; I am sure I do not know of any person who does.

Is it contrary to the orders of the Marshal to let those people have those runs?—He does not suffer it if he knows it. If a person was ill and was to apply to him, I dare say he would suffer it; it has been done in those cases.

William Filewood, was called in, and Examined.

William Filewood.

Does not a practice prevail in the prison, of letting prisoners go out on what is called a run of the key?—Yes; there has been some time ago, but not of late.

What was the last instance you recollect of that?—I have not let any out, to the best of my recollection and knowledge, for these three months, on my own account; whatever I did let out was such as poor trades-people, who wanted to go out to buy any thing for their own benefit, not by way of going out for luxury; but if a man wanted to buy a deal or two, or a bit of leather, or a bit of cloth.

Do you mean to say no man has been out of the prison in this manner, to your knowledge, within this last three months?—Not on my account.

Not to your knowledge?—Not on my account.

What do you mean by your account?—What I allude to is this, if a poor man asks me for the indulgence of going down within the Rules, and he states it is to purchase any thing, that falls upon myself if any escape happens.

Does he give you any thing for it?—Not at all; I make no demand.

Do you believe any other Turnkey has let any man out within the last three months?—I do not believe they have.

What made you stop the practice three months ago?—The Marshal was acquainted with it; he had heard of it, and therefore I thought it necessary, rather than run any kind of risk of displeasing him, to leave it off.

Was it three months ago the Marshal spoke to you on this subject?—I think it is about three months ago.

What fees did you take upon the run?—None at all.

You never took any money on granting a run to any of these people?—Upon my honour I never did; I have perhaps drank with them, but I never took any emolument from them.

Have not they made you presents?—Never; I have done it for the sake of rendering them a service, for the sake of their families.

Have you known lately, a man of the name of Underwood in the prison?—Yes.

When was the last time you saw him in the prison?—I cannot say, indeed.

When was he first missed in the prison?—About a week or a fortnight before his Lordship made his escape, I think.

Was search made for him in the prison?—Yes.

Was he found?—No.

Do you believe he is in the prison?—No, I do not.

Was any communication made by you on the subject of his escape?—No.

King's Bench Prison.

William Filewood.

Was the Marshal informed of it?—No, but his Deputy was.

Mr. Brooshooft?—Yes.

Does the Marshal know now that he has escaped?—I think he must have known it by this time from his Clerk.

You do not know that Mr. Brooshooft made any communication to the Marshal on the subject?—No, I do not.

Did all the Turnkeys hear that he had escaped?—Yes.

Was it at all discovered how he had escaped?—He went out, I understand, in womens clothes.

Was it a woman's dress, or a sailors dress?—It was reported to me it was in a woman's dress, on a Sunday night.

Who told you that?—The conversation of the people.

Did any particular person tell you he had escaped in women's dress?—No; it was the talk inside.

When was the search made in the prison?—The next morning; the Monday morning.

You have two rooms above the lobby, have you not?—Yes, there are two rooms above the lobby.

You let one of them?—No.

Never?—No.

Have you never received any money for any person lodging in that room?—When any person is committed by the court for a month or six weeks, when they have been sent up there, I have furnished the rooms for them, and let them have them ready furnished, and found coals and candles, and a servant, and have let it to them at a guinea per week; but that does not happen once in a twelvemonth, not six weeks in a twelvemonth.

How lately have you let those rooms?—The last person that had them was Mr. Bell, I suppose about six months ago.

What use do you make of those rooms when they are not let?—Nothing at all, they stand empty, they are not for people of any description, only just where a person is committed by the Court to give security to the satisfaction of the Marshal, if they are sent up there I can furnish them for them.

Do you ever sleep in them yourself?—Yes.

Not in both?—No, I sleep underneath.

Do you sleep in either of those rooms as to which the questions have been put?—No.

When you let them, do you let them with the permission of the Marshal?—When a person comes and says, the Marshal wishes you to let that gentleman go up stairs, then I do it, but not without his orders.

Is a guinea a week the most you have ever received for those rooms?—I never ask any more.

Is a guinea a week the most you have ever received for these rooms?—Doctor Campbell, three or four years ago, made me a present of more, when he he was here.

Thomas Herring was called in, and Examined.

Thomas Herring.

Were you living in the same room with Underwood, No. 6. in 12.—Yes, he lodged with me.

How long is it since he escaped from the prison?—I do not know, I am sure, I did not make a minute of the time, whether it was three weeks or a month, it was on a Sunday the last time I saw him.

Did you communicate his escape to any one?—Not particularly, I mentioned to Mr. Filewood the next morning concerning it.

What did Mr. Filewood say?—That he had been told of it before, but that he had not missed the man, that he should seek for him.

Have you any reason to believe what clothes the man went out in?—I believe in sailor's clothes.

What reason have you to suppose that?—Because there was a sailor's jacket in the room, and it was gone.

Had he any women's clothes in the room?—Not that I know of.

Was any search made in the prison for him?—No; no more than Mr. Marsh, one of the criers, came to me and took down his name, and where his father and mother lived.

James

King's Bench Prison.

James Sparks was called in, and Examined.

James Sparks.

Were you living in the same room with Underwood, at No. 6, in 12?—Yes.

How long is it since he escaped?—I do not recollect exactly; three weeks or a month.

What day of the week was it?—On a Sunday.

Did you make any communication of it to any one at the gate?—No; he had left our lodgings a day or two before he made his escape.

Had you any reason to know in what dress he went out?—I saw him with a working dress, sent up out of the country; I asked him what he wanted with that dress, a short frock and trowsers.

Was it a sailor's jacket?—He had a sailor's jacket besides.

Had he any woman's dress that you know of?—He might or might not; he had a large bag of clothes; I never saw any women's clothes in his possession.

Mrs. Isabella Thornborough was called in, and Examined.

Mrs. I. Thornborough.

You have been in the habit of going out sometimes, on what is called a run of the key?—Only to Mr. Harrison, my attorney; I was not able to pay the expense of an attorney coming to me.

When was the last time you went out?—On Saturday.

Who was the Turnkey at the gate at the time?—I think Mr. Durant.

Is there any fee paid upon going out in that manner?—I never paid any thing; I never had it in my power.

Was any thing asked of you?—Never; I have a small family of five children.

Neither in money nor drink?—No, never; I have met with the greatest indulgence, on account of my family; I have five, and the eldest is not above eight years old; they are very much afflicted.

When was the last time before Saturday, you went out?—I cannot tell exactly.

Has it happened frequently?—About half a dozen times.

Have you any person chummed with you?—Not at present; I had one, but it was not in my power to pay; I was not able to pay my shilling a week.

How long have you been here?—A twelve-month, the 27th of next month.

Thomas Beecroft was called in, and Examined.

Thomas Beecroft.

How long is it since you have been out, on what is called a run of the key?—I never had a run of the key; only, in consequence of being indisposed, Mr. Brooshooft gave me a kind indulgence.

How long is it since you had it?—Only recently, since I have been indisposed.

How lately is it?—About three weeks,

How often have you been out?—Not above one or two days in the course of a week, for an hour or so.

Have you ever been out when Filewood was upon the key?—Not particularly; I cannot exactly call to mind.

Did you apply to Mr. Brooshooft for the run of the key?—I asked the indulgence in consequence of my indisposition to walk out.

Was it immediately granted?—It was granted through Mr. Brooshooft, not immediately.

Who told you you could get the indulgence?—I never knew there was such a practice particularly.

How came you to ask for it, if you did not know it was granted for a prisoner?—I did not know of its being given to other prisoners; I had been in the habit of attending Mr. Brooshooft in my profession as a hairdresser; and very probably he might grant it me in consequence of that.

Have you ever made any compliment to any of the Turnkeys for it?—Never, upon my honour.

Do you know whether any other prisoner has had the same indulgence sometimes, or is it confined to you?—I do not know that it is confined to any individual particularly; it is out of my power to state any thing on that subject.

John

King's Bench Prison.

John Upton was called in, and Examined.

John Upton.

Have you ever been out upon what is called the run of the key?—Yes; I have been occasionally.

What did you pay for it?—I paid nothing for it.

How long is it since you were out in that manner?—I was out occasionally from last July almost until November.

Were you out of the Rules during that time?—I frequently went into the Rules, most chiefly; I do not know that I exceeded the Rules.

Do you mean you were out the whole time between July and November?—No.

You were in the habit of going out during that time?—Yes.

Why was the privilege taken away in November?—I believe it was on account of the term.

Have you ever been out since?—Yes, one day.

Did you pay any thing for going out in that manner?—No.

Were you servant to Mr. Butt before he came in here?—No; I was waiter at the coffee-house.

How were you employed during the time you were out from July to November?—I was employed in buying articles for my master such as he wanted; I did not go out for my pleasure but to the butchers and to the grocers, and to such places, as I wanted to go to.

Bernard Emanuel Brooshooft was again called in, and Examined.

B. E. Brooshooft.

Did you know a man by the name of Underwood?—I did not know him but by name.

How long, has he escaped from the prison?—That I do not know but by report.

When was he reported to you to have escaped?—Since the Committee were here, when I charged Morris about Lovell, or some such person having escaped; he charged me with having mentioned to me a person of the name of Underwood being missing, and that I asked him whether he had a discharge, and that he told him he had not; I did not recollect his having mentioned it.

The period you speak of was not the first morning of Underwood's escape?—I think he did mention it; upon his mentioning it again, I seemed to recollect it.

Was any search made in the prison about the time of his escape?—None; it is a thing of very little importance; I am informed by the Turnkey we may have a discharge from the attorney, but we have not got it yet.

Is this man a debtor only, or an impressed man?—I believe, an impressed man; but I have not looked at the books to see.

Does not the Marshal enter into an engagement, to deliver up those men having entered on board the tender?—If a man is detained for services under the Crown, he is under a penalty of 100 *l.* for not delivering him.

Did you make no communication to the Marshal, of this man having escaped?—I did not.

Is the Marshal aware of the circumstances of this man having escaped?—Yes, he is.

When, for the first time?—I mentioned them to him to-day.

Since the Committee have been here?—Yes, certainly; I did not think it at all of importance.

Will the Marshal have to pay this 100 *l.*?—If the Government demands it; or deliver up the man.

Do not you consider it of importance to the care of this prison, of which you are the principal manager, that any person should have escaped from within its walls?—Under the circumstances, I did not feel it of importance; we are not now at war, and the man's services did not appear of importance.

Did you not consider it of importance to your principal, that he would be liable to pay this 100 *l.*?—If he was called upon for it.

Do not you consider it of importance that one man should have escaped, as it shewed others might escape too?—Certainly, they might half of them escape.

But you did not consider it of sufficient importance to communicate it to the Marshal?—I did not, at that time.

You,

King's Bench Prison.

B. E. Brooshooft.

You, acting as his deputy, did not think it necessary to report it?—I thought it so unlikely he would be called upon for the penalty, I did not report it, thinking that our officers would get into displeasure for it.

Is not every escape from the prison reported to the Marshal?—Certainly not.

Do you not conceive, as the Deputy Marshal, that it is your duty to report all misconduct of the Turnkeys?—I do; I should have reported to the Marshal, if I thought he would be answerable for any consequences from the escape, but I did not think he was, in this case.

Was not he liable for the debt?—No, not in this case; this is a friendly action, I am informed; it is a very common thing, I am told, in the County Gaols to take a man out of the service.

Did you know at the time, that it was a friendly action?—Certainly not, at the time we received him; but we could have done nothing, if we had.

At the time of the escape, were you told it was a friendly action?—I was told that the discharge might be obtained of Mr. Clutton, in Saint Thomas's-street; that was told me, to make me less anxious about it.

Who told you this?—Morris, I think; he states to me that he told me of it.

You did not think it your duty to inform Mr. Jones that some officers had misconducted themselves?—I did not think they had.

Is it no misconduct in the Marshal's officers, to let a man escape?—I conceive it to be the highest act of indiscretion and irregularity, if that officer did it with any connivance or collusion; I hoped that was not the case, and, feeling that there was no great charge likely to fall upon Mr. Jones, I did not report it.

Did you examine into the circumstances of this man's escape?—I did.

How do you conceive he got away?—In disguise, or through the gate without disguise; I will not presume to say which.

Did you not immediately, on hearing of his escape, order that the prison should be searched, to see whether he was there or not?—I have asked them since whether they were sure he was gone; certainly not immediately.

You took no steps to ascertain whether he was there, and concealed?—No; I did not.

You took no steps to ascertain whether the action was friendly or not?—No.

Do you know the amount of the action?—I have not referred to the Books to see it.

You have not at present got his discharge?—No.

Do you consider the Marshal liable to the penalty of 100*l.*?—If the government call for it.

Do you consider the Marshal subject to the amount of the debt?—No, certainly not; for I am told by the officer, we can get a discharge the moment we apply for it.

Is it the practice in the prison to give the prisoners the indulgence of going out upon what is called a run of the key, without Day Rules?—It has been done ever since I have been here.

Is it done without the permission of the Marshal?—The Marshal does not know the persons exactly.

Does he know of the practice?—He did know of the practice, for he reprimanded some of the officers for letting them go out.

Is that done, notwithstanding his reprimand?—Occasionally I let them go out to their attornies; I would not prevent an honest man from going out to his attorney.

Does the Marshal know of the practice?—I do not know that he does.

Do you think that if he knew of it, he would approve of it?—He would perhaps, say that I did wrong in permitting it, and was imprudent, and that he should have to pay for it; but I should have no more difficulty in allowing one-half of the prisoners to go out, within the Rules of the prison, on their word of honour, than I should to let any gentleman have my horse, or any thing I have.

Do you conceive, in this, you are stating the Sentiments of yourself, or of the Marshal?—I conceive I am stating more my own sentiments, because the Marshal does not know the persons as I do.

Do you conceive the Marshal would approve of your letting persons out in this manner?—I do not know that he would disapprove of it, if I assigned good reason.

King's Bench Prison.

B. E. Brooshooft.

Has this ever come to the knowledge of the Marshal?—It has.

Has it been marked with approbation by him?—With disapprobation, in consequence of the practice having been too frequent.

Has he disapproved of the frequency, or has he disapproved of the practice altogether?—I do not think the Marshal would object to its being done, for the accommodation of the parties.

Has the Marshal forbidden it?—Yes, he has; but I should have no difficulty if a gentleman came to me to-morrow, and wished to go out to Mr. Harrison the Attorney, or to buy any thing, in letting him go out.

Do you think it is proper you should act on your own authority, or under the direction of the Marshal?—I should think it extremely odd if I had not a right to act for myself, in many cases.

Do you think the Marshal would have a right to resort to you in consequence of escape?—Most seriously so; I should lose my situation if I could not pay the debt and costs.

William Jones, Esq. was again called in, and Examined.

William Jones, Esq.

Does the Committee understand correctly, that you positively disapprove of the practice of letting prisoners go out upon a run of the key?—I do, most positively.

Have you expressed your disapprobation of the practice?—I have to several; I have been really very angry about it.

Has your disapprobation of the practice ever been expressed to Mr Brooshooft?—I cannot say; but I have given it to be understood to the officers, for they used to let prisoners confined for small debts go out as a matter of indulgence, purely and entirely unknown to me; and really I have been vexed about it, because they have been injuring me by suffering people to go out without my concurrence.

Do you conceive that in all instances, Mr. Brooshooft is to follow your directions, or to act according to his discretion?—I think he acts entirely under my direction; if he was to do wrong I should call him to account for it; but he is a very trusty officer, and a very intelligent man.

Have you any reason to believe that he sanctions the practice of letting the prisoners go out in the manner referred to?—I have not any reason to believe it; I should certainly call him to account if he did; I have had intelligence so far as this, that indulgences have been given to the favourites of the Turnkeys, for we are obliged to have favourites withinside to give us intelligence; I have favourites unknown to the Turnkeys or Mr. Brooshooft; we must have favourites to give us intelligence of any thing that may be passing inside; perhaps they do indulge them with the liberty of walking out; but they are only debtors, no crown prisoners have ever been permitted; and those debtors I am answerable for if they go out of the Rules.

How soon were you informed that a person of the name of Underwood had escaped out of this prison?—I was not informed till very lately.

How lately?—I did not hear his name mentioned till this very day, they may have mentioned it before, but if so, it slipped my memory.

Were you told at the same time, the circumstances under which Underwood was confined?—No, I do not think I was.

Do you know whether he is simply a debtor, or whether there are other circumstances connected with his situation?—I really do not know, but I can see in a moment on referring to the book.

Do you conceive Mr. Brooshooft performed his duty, by not informing you of the escape of Underwood, as soon as he knew of it?—Indeed, I think, he ought to have informed me; but if he was for debt, I am answerable for his debt.

Is there any return of escapes to the King's Bench?—No; the return is out of my pocket, for I am obliged to pay the debt and costs if they are seen out of the Rules.

Is not the departure of any prisoner from the prison, whether under a discharge, or for any reason, reported to you?—It ought to be, certainly; for I am liable; if they neglect it; they do it at their peril; for I should compel them to pay the debt with which that prisoner was chargeable; they would be obliged to pay it out of their own pockets.

Is not the escape of a debtor considered as an offence to the Court, by which he is committed in addition to the penalty you incur of paying the debt?—

King's Bench Prison.

William Jones, Esq.

No, I do not think it is the penalty is; upon myself, subjecting me to the payment of the debt and costs. I suffer by the neglect, if they were to do their duty improperly, owing to their neglect, I should make them pay the debt; the creditor would be very glad to get me for paymaster instead of the debtor himself, so that it is an advantage to the creditor for an escape to happen.

[The book was produced containing the commitment of James Underwood, on the 20th of December 1814, for want of bail on a Writ of Habeas Corpus, the amount of the debt 27 *l.* 10 *s.* and upwards, and certifying him to be a seaman.]

Is there any penalty for not returning a seaman when he gets his discharge?—I believe the penalty is 100 *l.* under an Act of Parliament.

John Fenn was called in, and Examined.

John Fenn.

What transaction had you with Mr. Morris upon the subject of any thing that you wished to sell, and what was the date of it?—I cannot say the date of it, it was the Saturday after the last term commenced; I went out on a Day Rule with the Tipstaff with me, the Tipstaff informed me, that as a poor man if I paid a 1 *l.* note to Mr. Morris, I should be allowed to go out on the Monday morning to sell my cows.

Did you give it him?—I gave 1 *l.* note to him, signifying that I should have the liberty on the Monday morning, and when I went on the Monday morning and gave the 5 *s.* 6 *d.* I had not enough to go out and to pay the man for his attendance; I could not go out then he told me without a Tipstaff, that of course hurt my feelings very much.

Did you go out?—I did not, I had not money enough.

Was the money returned?—No; it never was till yesterday, Mr. Morris gave me the 1 *l.* note; I asked for it many times, I was distressed for it.

What did he say when you asked him for it?—Mr. Morris told me it was divided between three of them; that he had only 6 *s.* and 8 *d.* of it, and not only that, but they would not let me go out, they said I was a suspicious character, without the security of 50 *l.* being laid at the gate.

Have you ever been out on what is called the run of the key?—No; I never had the run of the key.

Do you know that it is the practice to let prisoners out on the run of the key?—Yes; it is for men of character, I know.

Do you know any other instances of money being given by any persons to the Turnkeys?—No.

Christopher Morris was again called in, and Examined.

Christopher Morris.

Relate the circumstances of some money given you by that man (Fenn)?—Mr. Filewood, Mr. Durant, and I, had a 1 *l.* note between us for letting him out the last term and the term before.

Did he go out upon a Day Rule?—Oh yes; and I have returned the 1 *l.* note to him since.

Why have you returned the 1 *l.* note to him since?—Because he asked me for it, and said he was poor.

When did he ask you for it?—A fortnight ago I should think, or three weeks.

Are you a Tipstaff?—No.

Then how came he to pay you a fee on going out on a Day Rule?—It is a very good thing for him to go out, and it is only 6 *s.* & 8 *d.* if I have the money to myself.

Is there any fee due to you on a prisoner going out on a Day Rule?—There is none unless they like to give it.

Have you the power to refuse or give Day Rules?—None whatever.

What does a prisoner get by going out on Day Rules?—Liberty to go out and transact his affairs.

Have you any thing to do with the granting of Day Rules?—No, nothing at all; he left 50 *l.* in my hand when he went out once.

If you have nothing to do with the granting Day Rules, why did you take the 20 *s.* from him?—He gave me 20 *s.* certainly; a great many people have sent their 1 *l.* notes, but I have sent them back again.

King's Bench Prison

Christopher Morris.

For what reason do you suppose he gave you that 20 *s.*?—I suppose it was to make me a compliment for the indulgence; I had not it myself.

Is his going out on a Day Rule an indulgence given by you?—I asked Mr. Brooshooft for it, he being a poor man, the term before last, when he was not so well off as he is now, and I let him off without money.

Did you tell Mr. Brooshooft you had received this money?—No, I did not.

Had Mr. Brooshooft any reason to suppose you were paid?—No reason whatever, for so many are let out without Day Rules.

How was the 20 *s.* divided?—Myself 6 *s.* 8 *d.* Filewood 6 *s.* 8 *d.* and Durant 6 *s.* 8 *d.*

The three Turnkeys got 6 *s.* 8 *d.* each?—Yes; I have returned the 1 *l.* note back; they would not give me their 6 *s.* 8 *d.* back.

When did you first hear this matter was likely to be talked of before the Committee?—A week ago, I should think. If he had been poor and distressed, and asked for it, he knows I should have given it back to him; there is many pounds I have lent and lost by the prisoners; I have lost above 100 *l.* this year in lent money, and my situation is not worth 200 *l.* a year.

Mr. Frederick William Carter was called in, and Examined.

Mr. F. W. Carter.

You are partner with Mr. Clutton?—I am.

You were concerned for Underwood, were not you?—Yes.

What were the circumstances under which Underwood was confined here?—The facts as related to us were, that he volunteered into the Navy, and went on board the tender; his mother came and told us a dreadful story of his being taken out of the tender and confined in this prison; she went into a public-house in Blackfriars Road, the Hat and Feathers; she was there telling her story about her son going on board the tender, and wishing to get him out, and the person said I will get him out of the tender, that will cost you about 11 *l.* or 12 *l.*; and he took her to Mr. Lucas in Webber Row; they agreed to meet the next day at the Temple, and he said he would get some person to swear a debt against him; and he got a person of the name of Ifgrave to swear a debt against him for 15 *l.* and upwards; he said he could get him put into a lock-up-house, and from that he might make his escape; instead of that he was brought here, and we applied to the Judge for his discharge; under those circumstances we took out two summonses, and Mr. Lucas sent us a discharge, which we never used, because we could not get him relieved from the tender; we then applied to the Captain of the tender, understanding they did not want such boys; he said no, he could not discharge him, it was too late, and there was no chance of getting him out; and upon that we did not bring the discharge to the office.

Is he twenty-one?—I do not think he is.

You were employed by the mother to get him out of the King's Bench?—Yes; and we got Lord Ellenborough's order to discharge him on the 13th of January; after we had got it, Mr. Lucas the Attorney, on the 17th of January sent us his discharge, stating that he was out of town when we served the summonses.

Having these discharges in your hands in the month of January, you did not use them?—No, because we thought he might as well lie here as on board the tender.

What is become of him?—I do not know.

Do you know he has escaped?—No.

You do not know that he has escaped a month ago?—No; I thought he was in the prison.

Was there any debt due to Ifgrave?—No; we have the positive affidavit that there was no debt due; it was all to get money out of the woman, they got 27 *l.* out of her.

John Trayton Durant was called in, and Examined.

J. T. Durant.

How long has the practice of allowing persons to go out on what is called the run of the key prevailed?—It has not been practised but a very little while; sometime ago it was persons that were ill, and so on, were let out a little to take the air for the good of their health, those that could be trusted; then the Marshal gave an order that it should be stopped.

To whom did he give it?—To all of us.

Did he give it you personally, or through Mr. Brooshooft?—To me personally, and to Mr. Brooshooft personally too; I heard it all.

Did

King's Bench, Prison.

J. T. Durant.

Did you hear the Marshal tell Mr. Brooshooft that persons were not to be allowed to go out of the prison on what is called the run of the key?—Yes; he mentioned it to us, in short altogether.

Are you certain he gave it to Mr. Brooshooft in your presence?—I was not present, but he called me to the office; he called us from the lobby.

Are you certain that he gave Mr. Brooshooft that order?—No further than Mr. Brooshooft told me.

Did Mr. Brooshooft ever tell you it was the Marshal's order that persons were not to go out on the run of the key?—Yes; I heard Mr. Brooshooft say so that very day.

You say the practice prevailed some time ago, that it was stopped in consequence of the Marshal's orders, and is revived again?—It is not revived again; Mr. Brooshooft has given one or two orders to go up to Mr. Harrison, to get their business done under the Insolvent Act.

How lately has Mr. Beecroft gone out?—He has gone out many times; he is supersedable over and over again; he is the barber of the Bench.

How lately has Mrs. Thornborough been out?—Two or three days ago.

How long is it since Doctor Lewis went out?—About the same time; he went up to Mr. Harrison's with Mrs. Thornborough.

Is Mr. Lewis permitted often to go out?—No; he may be once in a week, or once in a fortnight, just to take a walk up with Mrs. Thornborough to Mr. Harrison's.

What compliment is paid by those persons when they go out?—I never have any.

Neither money nor drink?—I have had a glass of wine perhaps, but nothing more than common, not in consequence of that particularly; I never had a farthing of money in my life from it.

Did you receive any money from a man of the name of Fenn?—I believe there was five or six shillings, or something of that; we let him out on a Day's Rule to transact his business; he pretended to say he could compromise his matters with his creditors.

How was it you let him out?—We three Turnkeys, his debt being only 20 *l.* or 30 *l.* took it upon ourselves; if he had escaped we must have paid it; and when he came back he gave Morris twenty shillings.

Has that money been returned to him?—I have not returned any; Morris says he has returned it.

Is it common when prisoners go out in this way to give money to the Turnkeys?—It is optional with us whether we will let them out on these small debts to transact their affairs; I have known prisoners get their discharge, owing to going out to see their creditors.

Are you answerable to the Marshal, if the prisoners escape in consequence of Day Rules?—Of course we must pay the debt.

Are you a Tipstaff?—No.

Then why must you pay it?—Honour would not let us do less, as we are confidential servants.

Have you the liberty of letting out people on Day Rules?—No, not exactly.

Are you not forbidden to let out persons on Day Rules?—No.

Does not the Tipstaff give security for persons going out on Day Rules, not having term bonds?—No, I never understood it as such; there is an undertaking or something signed; but if a Tipstaff lets a person out, of course he is liable; if they give an order for such a man to have a Day Rule, and he brings it up in his hand, we cannot stop him, it is his pass

Have you any authority to let people out on Day Rules, you answering for the debt?—We have done it, the Marshal never complained of us.

Richard Ledwell was called in, and Examined.

Richard Ledwell.

How long have you been in this prison?—Seven years by the first of May.

You are major of the charities?—Yes, or steward; lately within a twelve month I have been so.

How many persons are there besides yourself that receive from those charities?—None at all at present; my partner is gone away this morning, there used to be seven or eight or ten sometimes.

King's Bench Prison.

Richard Ledwell.

Who keeps the key of the box?—The key of the begging box hangs up in the room I am in.

Have you got the account?—I have calculated it as nearly as possible; the whole of the sum, donations and all, amount only to 33 *l.* by the full value, coals and every thing; since these acts have become so frequent, and there are not so many visitors in the Bench, it is about 15 *l.* a year in the box.

Do you keep any account of the charities?—Yes, I keep an account, we set down what we receive; what we receive is in the poor part of the book, there used to be 60 *l.* a year allowed; but it is gone away to what is called the sixpenny act.

How much do you receive from the begging box; the account you have given in does not include that, does it?—What is in the begging box, if it is well watched and well minded, will bring in about 15 *l.* a year.

Who holds the box now?—Nobody, I am very ill, and my partner is gone away; a few years ago we had ten on.

You get upon an average about a shilling a day a-piece, do not you?—That is according to how many there are.

From what is that account, which you have in your hand, made up?—The gifts and donations, and coals, and every thing else.

Of what is that a copy?—It is made from my account in the book.

Do you put down in the book what you get from the begging box?—In general.

[The Witness was sent to fetch his Book; after a few minutes he returned with it.]

When was the last entry?—We set down nothing lately; I am only very lately steward of the common side.

The last entry appears to be April 6th 1813, are there any entries after that?—No, I believe not.

Can you write?—I can just write my name.

Have any entries been made in the book since it was in your possession?—I make a loose copy on a scrap of paper sometimes, and sometimes I forget it.

Marshalsea Prison.

Mercurii, 5° die Aprilis, 1815.

At The Marshalsea:

Earl Compton, in The Chair.

[The Memorial of certain prisoners in the King's Bench Prison, regarding the conduct of the Marshal of that prison, was laid before the Committee and read.]

Mr. William Jenkins was called in, and delivered in a printed Table of Fees.

Mr. William Jenkins

HOW long have you been Deputy Marshal of this prison?—Very nearly seventeen years; I have done the duty as Keeper for that time; I was not sworn into my office till the latter end of the year 1811.

Then you were not Deputy Marshal the first part of that time?—I was not.

By whom were you appointed?—By Sir James Bland Burgess.

Does Sir James Bland Burgess ever attend here?—Sir James Burgess attended here about the time we took possession of the prison, but not since that time.

He never visits to inspect the prison?—He has not for a considerable time past.

Do you make any report to him?—No, I do not; he has declined having any thing to do with the prison.

What are his reasons for that?—I do not know.

How long ago did he so decline?—I think in the year 1814; I had occasion to report to Sir James Burgess on one of the Turnkey's going away; I waited upon him at his house in Brook-street, and he acquainted me then, that he had declined interfering in the prison, that he would assist me with his advice occasionally,

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occasionally, but did not consider himself as having any thing to do with the prison.

Do you consider Sir James Burgess as responsible for the security of the prison?—I am under security to Sir James Burgess, in case of escape.

Sir James Burgess is Knight Marshal?—He is.

Does he in his character of Knight Marshal, continue to receive any fees belonging to the prison?—He does.

How long has this prison ceased to be the County Prison of Surrey?—I should think about twelve or thirteen years, or rather more; I speak from recollection.

This house has been built only three years?—This is the old County Gaol; that in the middle of the court is new, and so are some other parts of the prison.

How many apartments are there?—There are fifty-six separate rooms in the first pile of building.

That is not including the Admiralty part of the prison?—Including the four rooms for the Admiralty Officers.

Including also the tap-room?—No; the chandler's shop, four rooms for the Turnkey and the poor-side, with the exception of the Admiralty Officers; I speak of the part intended for debtors.

How many apartments are there for debtors?—Forty-eight; two more might be added if necessary.

There are four for the Turnkeys?—Yes; two of those are intended for persons who come in only for a night and then go to the King's Bench; those rooms at this end are intended for them.

Is it a perquisite to the Turnkeys to let those rooms to persons coming in?—I know of no perquisite, unless they supply a bed.

What is the number of debtors?—Sixty is the average number.

What is the greatest number you have known?—During the time Lord Redesdale's Act was in the House of Lords, there were 139.

What is the smallest number you have had?—About thirty, and from that to thirty-six.

How do you select the rooms for the debtors?—When a debtor is first brought in, if there is an empty room, he is put into it, and he remains alone till a chum is put upon him; and so we go on chumming from the youngest up to the eldest, till there are two in a room.

Have you any plan of chumming out; if a prisoner occupying a room does not chuse to have a chum placed upon him, has he any power of chumming out by giving money?—He has; there is a custom of that sort which has long existed.

Have you any controul over that?—If the person whom they desire to put out is willing to receive the money, I do not interfere; if he is not willing, I do interfere.

Have you any controul over the sum received?—Yes, half-a-crown is the sum usually given.

Your son is chum master?—Yes.

Supposing the person chummed out wished to return to his room, has he the power of doing so?—Yes; I should feel myself bound to put him into his room again.

What becomes of the persons chummed out, do they hire lodgings of other prisoners?—They do, upon the best terms they can.

Upon what terms?—I do not know; I can only speak from what I hear.

That you consider as entirely out of your controul?—Yes, I do.

Do the Turnkeys let lodgings?—They do not.

Is there any apartment at the Tap where lodgings are let?—In one of the rooms up stairs there has been a man and his wife some time, of the name of Davy; they wanted a bed, and a bed was put up for their accommodation: with that exception, and the time of Lord Redesdale's Bill, no person has slept there to my knowledge.

Do any persons besides prisoners possess rooms within that building you state to be applied for the accommodation of debtors?—No, except where they have families with them.

Supposing a prisoner furnishes a room and then goes out of the prison, do you permit him to retain that room and let it?—Certainly not.

What is the greatest number of persons you have chummed upon a room when

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. William Jenkins.

when the prison has been full?—I do not recollect more than three, and that upon very few occasions, with the exception of the time I alluded to before, when that great number was in.

Do many prisoners remain here after they are supersedable?—They have done so since the Insolvent Acts have been so frequent, to take the benefit of them.

Are they considered as entitled to the same privileges as the others, as to chummage?—No, they are not, I may discharge them when I think proper; but I have not done so, unless where they have been refractory, I recollect one instance of that kind.

Are they erased out of the chumming book?—They are not deprived of their room, but they take a chum sooner than they otherwise would.

Do any prisoners sleep in the tap?—I believe there are some who sleep in what is called the ale-room, those that have relinquished their chummage, but I believe very few.

How soon after his arrival in the prison would a debtor receive a chum-ticket?—In the course of an hour or two, when he comes up to the lodge for it; when a debtor is first brought into the prison, a person they appoint, whom they call Secretary, is sent for immediately, and then a chum ticket is made out within an hour or two.

You do not consider it possible for a debtor to have remained two or three days in the prison without a chum ticket being given to him?—No such thing has ever come to my knowledge; and I am always on the spot, unless it is a Court day.

You state that the Secretary is sent for immediately; who sends for him?—The Turnkey sends for him

Supposing a prisoner is brought in very late at night, what is done?—The Secretary is still sent for and would attend.

What would be done with respect to the chummage?—If the chummage could not be accomplished in consequence of the lateness of the hour, the Secretary would get him a bed.

The Secretary is paid by a fee from the prisoners themselves?—Yes.

That is a voluntary fee on their part?—Yes.

A fee you have no controul over?—No, nor any of my Officers.

Is there any allowance of bedding to the debtors?—There is not.

It appears by the printed Regulations, that there is a fee of sixpence to the Keeper, for the use of the bed, bedding and sheets, for every prisoner, if found by the Gaoler at the prisoner's request, for the first night on the Master's side; is that taken?—There is no bedding allowed, and consequently that fee is not taken.

Has this regulation been ever repealed?—Bed and bedding was formerly supplied in the old Marshalsea Prison, but it was not under my controul, it was not supplied by me; the old Marshalsea Prison was private property, and I believe the person to whom the prison belonged supplied it.

Do you not conceive those rules are still binding upon the Keeper of the prison?—They never have been repealed by the Court to my knowledge certainly.

Have you any means of dispensing with that provision?—I have never received any authority; but no bed and bedding has been supplied, and that I believe is known to the Court.

If that fee was tendered to you, should you think yourself bound to supply bedding in consequence?—I hardly know how to answer that; I should take advice about it; the expense of bedding would be very considerable, and that fee I should not think an adequate remuneration for it.

In point of fact have you ever had an application from a debtor for a bed?—Not under the Table of Fees I have not; I have lent beds where the prisoners have been unable to provide them.

Have you ever had an application claiming the right in consequence of this provision?—I never have.

You claim the other fees due to the Keeper, in consequence of those orders and regulations?—I do.

And yet you do not feel yourſelf bound to supply bedding, notwithstanding that proviſion in the same Paper of Regulations?—I have not, certainly.

This Paper was established when the prison was private property?—Yes; that Table of Regulations was established in 1765.

Do

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. William Jenkins.

Do you account with the Knight Marshal for the fees payable to him under that Table?—I do annually.

Have the fees in that Paper been deviated from?—No, they have not, except with respect to the beds, which are not furnished by me, and of course I take no fees for them.

Do you account with the Knight Marshal for the whole of those fees, or do you deduct any part for yourself as Deputy?—I account with him for the 1 *s.* 8 *d.* for his fee.

What do you pay to the Knight Marshal for those fees?—About 20 *l.* a year.

What is the nature of your office?—Deputy Marshal of the Marshalsea and Palace Courts, and Keeper of the prison.

You receive those fees which are mentioned for the Keeper of the prison?—I do.

Have you the copy of your Appointment here?—I have.

[*The Witness delivered in the same.*]

Do you consider yourself as responsible only to Sir James Bland Burgess for the state of the prison?—I do consider myself responsible to Sir James Burgess, for he has on one or two occasions interfered; when I waited upon him lately, he assured me he had nothing to do with the prison; but I am informed that he has.

Suppose an Admiralty prisoner was to escape, do you not think you should be responsible to the public for his escape?—I think I should, for all escapes.

You have delivered in two appointments, the one as Deputy Marshal, and the other as Under Marshal, what distinction do you make between the two?—The one as Deputy Marshal of the Marshalsea, and the other, Under Marshal of the Palace Court.

Do you receive any salary other than what arises as fees?—I receive a salary paid at Saint James's, the same as the salaries to the household.

What is the amount of that?—300 *l.* a year.

For what?—For my attendance in Court, and to include every thing, indeed.

Is it the salary for the two offices you hold?—Yes; no part of that, I apprehend, is for the Admiralty department.

That is beyond any fees you are entitled to take?—Yes.

What is the amount of the fees?—The fees, on the discharge of prisoners, amount upon the average to 80 *l.* per annum.

Do you receive any thing for rent of rooms in the prison?—I do not for the rooms in the debtors part, except for the chandler's shop.

What do you receive for that?—Half-a-guinea a week; I fitted it up when I came here.

What is the amount of your salary and fees?—My income from the prison altogether is between five and six hundred a year; I pay property tax on 600 *l.* a year.

Do you receive any rent for the coffee-room?—I receive a rent from the tap.

What do you receive?—Two guineas a week.

Does that go to you or to the Knight Marshal?—To me.

Do you receive any emoluments upon the wine, or the other liquors that may be drank in the tap-room?—I do not; I charge a certain rent to the tapster, and that includes every thing.

You have no profit upon the amount of the beer?—No; as to the quantity of beer drank, I have no interest in it.

Are there any certain hours for the tap being open?—From eight in the morning till eleven at night.

Is there any regulation as to the debtors getting more than a certain quantity of liquor?—No; there is hardly a possibility of any controul on the quantity of liquor, while they have at all times access to the tap.

Supposing a person to be intoxicated, should you take any means to punish him?—If he was refractory, I should; not if he kept himself quiet.

Should you interfere, to prevent his having any more liquor?—Certainly; there is a general understanding, if persons are tippling all day, that when they become intoxicated, they shall be prevented having any more.

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Mr. William Jenkins.

Are spirits allowed to come in?—No.

Do you consider that any quantity of spirits do enter the prison?—I have no doubt that spirits sometimes get in, though I make every exertion to prevent it; the extract from the Act of Parliament is hung up in the lodge, and there is every attempt made to prevent it, but women are sometimes found bringing them in, they are then always taken to Union Hall.

Do you go round the prison at stated times?—I go round occasionally.

How often do you suppose you go round?—Sometimes once a week, sometimes once a fortnight; I have no particular times, but I am continually on the spot.

When you go round, do you visit every room?—No, I do not; if I have any particular occasion to go to a room, I do go.

Have you any thing like a roll-call of the prisoners?—No; I keep a list of them myself.

Do you take any particular means to ascertain whether the debtors are absent from the prison?—They cannot be without my knowledge.

Have you had any instances of escape?—One instance of escape has occurred, in bringing a man from the Court, and I paid the debt; there has been no escape from the prison.

Have you any thing like what is called the run of the key?—No.

There are no Rules here?—No, there are not; they are all within the walls.

Though you do not go round the prison yourself, do your officers?—They are continually in the prison, but there is no regular inspection.

Has there been any riot or disturbance in the prison?—No; I never knew an instance of the kind; the only thing which has produced any thing tending to that, has been some of the prisoners being intoxicated in the evening, but nothing serious.

What means of communication have the prisoners with you?—By coming to the lodge.

Is a debtor, here, any charge to a creditor?—He sues his creditor for sixpence a day, under the Lords Act; that is the only allowance for debtors, except those on the poor-side; there are certain charities for them.

Is there any allowance from Parliament for the repairs of this prison?—There are; the repairs necessary are included in my account, and sent to the Treasury; the money is sent to me: I am now preparing the accounts for 1814.

You have an account every year?—Yes.

Have you, in the account of the repairs necessary, made any observation upon the state of the court-yard where the water appears to lie and not to run off?—No, I have not made any report upon that; the pavement I believe has not been properly pitched; there the privies smell very bad, and the water lies there certainly, but I am anxious to lessen the expenses as much as possible in my account; I have generally some observations made, whenever I pass my account, as to the heavy expenses.

What are the usual expenses of repairs and whitewashing, upon an average of years?—I do not know what the expense of whitewashing is; the Board of Works send their officers once a year to whitewash; I cannot state at present the average expense of repairs; they vary every year.

How are the Turnkeys paid?—In the same way that I am paid.

By salary?—Yes, paid by the Board of Green Cloth.

Are they appointed by you?—They are, with the exception of the head Turnkey, who was appointed by Sir James Burgess, by my recommendation.

When you state that the Turnkeys are paid in the same manner that you are, do you mean that they are paid by fees, or by salary?—I mean that the head Turnkey is paid by certain fees and by salary, the other Turnkeys are only paid by salary.

Are the fees to the head Turnkey in the Table of Fees?—They are.

How many Turnkeys have you?—Four.

Have you any other officers besides the Turnkeys?—Four servants are allowed me under the Regulations by the Treasury, no more.

Have you any Watchman?—One of them is a Watchman; I place them in such situations as I think necessary; one does the duty of regular Watchman, and the others take the key alternately as it suits them.

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. William Jenkins.

Is there a Chaplain to the Gaol?—There is.

Does he attend every Sunday?—He does.

Does he ever attend in the week?—He does not, unless sent for particularly.

If he is sent for, it is his duty to attend?—Yes, and he would attend, I know.

What is his name?—His name is Webster; but he is only the Deputy, the Reverend Mr. Trollope is the Chaplain.

Who appoints the Chaplain?—The Knight Marshal.

The Chaplain performs service every Sunday?—He does.

Once a day?—Yes.

Does he deliver a sermon?—A short sermon. He generally attends at half past twelve, except the first Sunday in the month, when it is half past two; he has been allowed to alter his hours, by application to Sir James Burgess, as he has other churches to attend to.

Mr. Trollope never attends?—No.

What is the salary of the Chaplain?—Fifty pounds a year.

Would the prisoners have the power of sending for any clergyman they thought proper?—At any time.

Has the Under Chaplain any salary?—No salary; but he has a shilling on the discharge of each debtor; the Chaplain, I presume, gives up the fee of one shilling to his Deputy.

Is there any regular Surgeon appointed?—There is.

How is he paid?—He has a salary of 50 *l.* a year, and a shilling on the discharge of each debtor.

Does he reside in the prison?—He does not; he resides close at hand, in Union Street.

Does he attend every day?—Not constantly every day; generally about every other day, but he comes whenever he is sent for.

Is the conduct of the prisoners at Chapel in general orderly?—I never heard any complaint; I see the Chaplain pretty regularly, and I should hear if there was.

Do you attend the Chapel?—I do not myself; I did at first; generally my son and one of the Turnkeys attend every Sunday.

You would conceive yourself entitled to punish any prisoner who misbehaved himself in the Chapel?—Certainly.

Is the attendance in the Chapel numerous?—The attendance is sometimes more numerous than at other times; in general, not numerous.

Should you consider yourself authorized to compel the Admiralty prisoners to attend Chapel?—I should, unless they are of a different persuasion, and most of them are Catholics; there is a pew for them in the Chapel, and they are expected to attend every Sunday; and if they say they are not of the Protestant religion, they are generally locked up in their rooms, or kept separate.

Are they attended by any Roman Catholic Clergyman?—They are not.

Are there any nurses appointed?—A woman is generally employed when it is necessary; there is no regular nurse.

Are medicines found by the public for the prisoners?—No, by the surgeon; that is covered by the 50 *l.* a year; the only charge he makes is in case of supplying the prisoners with trusses, but that has been very trifling.

What is the number of sick?—There is a report made every Friday to the Judge; Mr. Morice has laid down that ever since he has been in the Court; they have generally been from poor living, before they came in, and from excesses.

In the infirmary the floor is prepared with ring-bolts?—Yes.

Is it frequently used as a place of confinement?—It is very rarely, but it is at this moment; those ring bolts are absolutely necessary; when we first came in, we had a number of Admiralty prisoners here for mutiny, and there was no other way of confining them.

Why were the ring-bolts put in the infirmary particularly?—Because there was no other room sufficiently airy to keep them in close confinement; there are two rooms in the bottom of the building intended for strong rooms, but I should not think it safe for the health of the prisoners to lock them up there for any length of time.

Have you ever had any infectious disorder in the prison?—Never.

Is there any particular brewer appointed to supply the prison?—There is Mr. Green of Westminster.

Would the prisoners be able to send to any other person for their beer if they pleased?—

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pleased?—The prisoners may send for their beer at any time of the day out of the prison, if they like.

Do they in fact send?—They do; beer is coming in all the day long.

Has any complaint been made of the beer?—That depends, I should think, upon the palate of the people; some prefer Barclay and Perkins's beer, but Green's beer is in general good, I think; there have been complaints; I saw Green in consequence of that, and he assures me that the best is sent here; I am responsible to the brewer for the beer sent in.

It is all brought to the tap-master?—Yes.

Do you derive any profit from the beer?—Nothing more than the two guineas a week.

Does the brewer sell his beer here at the same price as he does to his customers out?—I believe he does; I had a letter from him at the time of the reduction of the price.

Is your tenant in the tap connected with the brewery?—Not at all; he is put in by me, and I am responsible for the beer supplied to him.

Does the tap-keeper receive a profit upon the beer?—I have no doubt the keeper of the tap receives a profit similar to that a public-house-keeper would out of doors.

You have stated that the prisoners may, and occasionally do, send out for their beer?—Continually; not only on a particular occasion but continually, and for their provisions too.

What means have they of doing that?—By their own messengers; and a publican in the neighbourhood is in the habit of coming backwards and forwards, and takes their orders.

What do you mean by their messengers?—Their children, and other children who are about.

Can they go out at all times during the same hours that the tap is open in the prison?—They can, from eight in the morning to ten in the evening.

Then it is in their option whether they will take the beer from the tap or the public-house without?—Certainly, entirely so.

There is no expense in their sending out?—Only what they give to the children, or whoever they please to employ; or they may speak to the publican when he is in here.

Do you consider that you are entitled to interfere in the regulations adopted in the ale-room?—If any thing has been submitted to me, I have interfered, but it has been very rarely the case that I have decided any dispute between them; formerly I held myself bound to interfere, in case of any thing improper.

Do you think yourself entitled to interfere to enforce regulations they have made, such as those relating to subscriptions?—I should not interfere unless there was a regular complaint brought before me; I submitted to Sir James Burgess the voluntary fee paid on their coming in; he said he saw no objection to that fee being continued, because it was for the accommodation of themselves; but that it was not to be enforced against their will.

Supposing debtors are unable to pay their fees on leaving the prison, would they be kept in the prison?—They never are kept unless it is for their own benefit under the Insolvent Act; the charities always pay their fees.

When sick prisoners require nurses, by whom are those nurses paid?—By me.

Out of your own pocket?—No; I charge them in my account, and they have hitherto been allowed.

Has it ever happened that a prisoner has come to the lodge saying that he had no food?—I do not recollect any occurrence of that kind in this place, but in the old place such complaints have been made.

Supposing a prisoner so to come, what should you think it your duty to do?—I should allow him sixpence a day, which I have done when they have been actually poor, and charged it in my account.

You have known of such things?—Certainly; before the Act for the county allowance; but since the passing of that Act, sixpence a day is regularly paid to them till the first day of the term, when they are in execution, and then they may sue for their sixpences.

There is no begging grate here?—None.

Are strangers permitted to see the debtors at all times?—They are, from eight in the morning till the hour of locking up, ten at night.

Do you conceive you have the power of preventing any stranger from coming into the prison who has at any time misbehaved?—I think I have.

Have

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Have you ever exercised that power?—Yes, I have, not preventing their seeing their friends, but preventing their going into the body of the prison; they might see their friends at the lodge or within the gates; but if they had grossly misconducted themselves, I should not permit them to go into the body of the prison.

Supposing you had detected any person bringing in spirits, should you prevent their coming again?—If persons have come, knowing of the regulation, I should take them before the magistrates; but if they were detected in bringing in spirits, not knowing of the regulation, I should not press it to that extent.

What power do you suppose yourself to be entrusted with, with respect to the punishment of debtors who assault each other?—In the first place I investigate the business, and if they are not satisfied with my decision, the usual place is to lodge a warrant for the assault from Union Hall.

You conceive you have no power to punish?—No, unless it was by a few hours temporary confinement; but certainly I would not lock any man up in those rooms for a night.

You would not consider yourself justified in confining a man for two or three days in a solitary room, without carrying him before a magistrate?—No, not for a night in those solitary cells.

Do you speak now of debtors, or of Admiralty prisoners?—The Admiralty prisoners are locked up every night, the debtors are not.

What is the distinction between the Master's side and the Poor-side?—There are seven rooms appropriated for the poor-side, supposed to contain two in a room; we rarely or never exceed that number; there are seldom so many.

How do you decide who shall be on the poor-side of the prison?—By their taking an oath that they are not worth forty shillings.

Do they derive any emoluments from any charities, in consequence of taking that oath?—They do, and they have the 3*s.* 6*d.* per week, the county allowance.

Are there any scavengers belonging to the prison?—A scavenger appointed by the prisoners themselves; I find him brooms.

How often is the filth carried away?—Generally about once a fortnight; and I pay the scavengers out of doors for removing it; they generally come when they have about a cart load to remove.

Do you pay the scavenger in the prison?—No, he is paid the same as the Secretary, that is among themselves.

Do you interfere at all in the execution of the scavenger's duty?—I give directions that the prison shall be kept in a state of cleanliness, and that the scavengers shall wash down the drains three or four times a week in the summer time, or more; and I know that they are kept so.

Have you any fee or profit connected with the manure or filth carried out?—No, nor ever had.

You pay the scavengers out of doors?—Yes, I give them beer every time they come to fetch away the dirt from the dust-holes.

Is that sold by the prisoners?—I know of nothing of the kind.

Is that payment out of your own pocket?—Yes; it is so trifling, I make no charge for it; it is nothing more than a little beer.

How many rooms are there in the Admiralty side of the prison?—There are ten cells, besides what is called the day-room.

How many prisoners have you upon an average?—Generally from six to eight; we have now ten.

What has been the greatest number you have had?—I think eighteen has been the greatest number.

The Admiralty prisoners are locked up every night?—They are.

At what hour?—That depends upon the season of the year; in summer, about half-past seven; in winter, before four o'clock; it depends entirely upon the period of the year; when the weather is very dark, they are not suffered to be at large after dusk.

When are they let out of their cells in the morning?—They are unlocked about eight o'clock in the morning.

How often are their cells whitewashed?—Once a year, at the same time as the other rooms.

Do you see that their cells are kept constantly clean?—Yes; their cells are generally cleaner than the debtors; they are obliged to keep them clean; but

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Mr. *William Jenkins.*

but independent of that, sailors are generally cleanly men.

Have they an allowance from the Admiralty?—Yes, a shilling a day.

What description of prisoners are they?—Prisoners convicted by court-martial.

Not prisoners from the Admiralty Sessions?—Certainly not.

In those rooms you confine simply those sentenced to solitary confinement?—Yes.

Where are those who are not sentenced to solitary confinement?—They are in rooms on the back of the prison, in rooms appropriated to Admiralty officers.

Have they any Admiralty allowance?—They have; but when not sent for solitary confinement, petty officers, such as midshipmen and master's mates, have only sixpence a day; and indeed the sailors used to have only that, till I represented the case to the Admiralty, and got the allowance increased to a shilling.

The midshipmen and petty officers are allowed to live among the debtors?—They are.

When they are sentenced to solitary confinement?—No, not when they are sentenced to solitary confinement, with one exception; there was one young man sent to solitary confinement, the place was then very full; I applied to Mr. Bicknell, the Solicitor for the Admiralty, requesting he might be allowed to come in this yard, as he did not come in for such a crime as those in that yard generally were, and he was permitted by Mr. Bicknell to be in this yard.

What are the offences for which the majority are sentenced?—The majority of the offences are mutiny, and attempting to commit unnatural crimes, and desertion, and tempting others to desert.

Is there no separation of those classes?—There is no possibility of separating them, in the limited space we have.

Would a man sent here for an unnatural crime be with the others?—They are all in the yard for the Admiralty prisoners.

The Admiralty prisoners are never committed here, except when imprisonment is part of their sentence?—Never.

If the Surgeon considers it necessary to have further advice in any case, can he do so?—Yes, he is quite at liberty to do that, if he thinks it necessary.

Would that be put down in your accounts to the Treasury?—Yes, I should charge it certainly; I never recollect any case in which it was thought necessary to call in the aid of a physician.

John Henry Tonzeau was called in, at his own request, and Examined.

John H. Tonzeau.

What complaint have you to state to the Committee?—It is the opinion of the prisoners in general, that there is a certain grant of coals allowed to the prisoners for cooking, and they never have received any whatever, and we are at present 8*s.* 6*d.* deficient; I speak of the 8*s.* collected of every person who comes in, for fees; this 8*s.* is intended for supplying the prison with coals and candles; at present the fund is wholly expended, and 8*s.* 6*d.* deficient; we suspect that there is allowed, by some donation, a vast quantity of coals every year.

Is there a list of the charities and donations stuck up?—There is not.

Are not the charities applicable to the poor-side only?—I make the complaint generally; there is only one fire for cooking in the prison.

Is there any list of the charities exhibited publicly in the prison?—None.

Neither on the poor-side nor the other side?—I have been here three months and never saw it; I have seen it in other prisons.

Is the fee of 8*s.* the fee paid on entering the prison?—Yes.

To whom is it paid?—To the Secretary of the prison; that is among ourselves, or we should not have any fire at all to cook with.

You mean to say, your 8*s.* subscription is insufficient to provide you with fire, and that you suspect there are donations and charities applicable to that purpose?—Yes.

Have you ever heard that at any former time there was some allowance of coals issued in the prison?—No, I never heard that there were any issued at all.

Have you any particular reason for supposing there is this donation of coals?—I have heard some persons say that the woman who keeps the tap-room has given them reason to suppose there was such an allowance.

What is her name?—Short.

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John H. Tonzeau.

Have you any other complaint to make?—My next complaint is respecting the beer; it is received from a person of the name of Green; it is of a very inferior nature; I was four or five weeks laid up with a bowel complaint; the generality of persons are taken with a bowel complaint, in the same manner, and it is with nothing else but the beer. Whether the beer is so bad because the woman cannot sell it good may be a consideration, because she pays so much for the tap to Mr. Jenkins; she pays two guineas a week for it; perhaps, the rent being so high, she may not be able to sell it genuine.

Have not the prisoners the privilege of sending out to any other place for their beer?—They have; but every person has not the power of sending out a servant.

Are there not children in the prison ready to go out?—Yes, if they are paid a halfpenny or a penny for going.

Does not a neighbouring publican come into the prison for the purpose of receiving orders?—He comes in for his pots; I never heard of his coming in for orders.

When he is in, would he not take orders?—Yes, of course.

Would he not send in beer free of expense?—Yes, he does to me every day.

Is his beer good?—Capital.

Did you ever hear that any surgeon had stated that it was his opinion the bowel complaint was created by Mr. Green's beer?—No; I told Mr. Phillips myself, I thought it was.

Have you any other complaint?—No.

What is the beer charged at in the prison?—Sixpence per pot, and five-pence out; sixpence, if it is drank in the room where it is drawn; five-pence, if we take it where our fire is, or into our own rooms; they bring it into the prison for five-pence.

Five-pence is the general price out of doors?—Yes.

There is always a fire kept in that room in which the beer is sixpence per pot?—Yes, by the woman, at her expense.

Is there anything found for that additional penny, knives or forks or pepper, or anything of that sort?—No; I do not know that anything of that description is required.

People might go and eat their dinners there and have their beer there, and she might furnish them with different articles?—Yes, she will do that.

They are not allowed to take their own meat dressed in their rooms and eat there?—No, it is a favour if they do; I have heard her refuse it; I believe no complaint is made by the prisoners of the payment of the penny for drinking the beer in her room, but of the quality of the beer.

Elizabeth Short was called in, and Examined.

Elizabeth Short.

You are keeper of the tap?—Yes, I am.

Is there any allowance of coals to the prisoners?—None.

Do you know of any charitable donation for coals?—No.

Did you never hear there was a charitable donation for coals for the use of the prisoners?—Upon my word, I do not know of any.

Did you never say any thing of that kind to Tonzeau?—No; there are coals allowed to Mr. Jenkins, I believe.

For what?—For his own private use.

For any thing else?—No.

By whom are they allowed?—I do not know.

From any charitable donation?—Not that I know of.

Do you mean to say you do not know that there is an allowance of coals for the prisoners?—Upon my word of honour I do not; I know there are coals sent to the Governor, but there are no coals that I know of for the collegians, except that at Christmas time formerly, they have had five chaldron of coals sent by some body who is now dead, and that is done away with.

Was that a legacy at that time?—Yes; but I cannot tell from whom they came.

Was it annual?—Yes, I believe it was.

How long ago was this?—This prison has been used for the Marshalsea three years in December, and they have not had the allowance of coals here; I know of many on the poor-side who had as much as a sack of coals each

to

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Elizabeth Short.

to himself; it was a donation; from whom it was, I do not know, but he is since dead.

This donation never was to any of the debtors, except those on the poor-side?—No.

And it was never sent since this prison was established?—No, not to my knowledge; I have known this prison eight years; my husband was a Turnkey; since we have been here they never have had it; and I understand the person who gave it, died before the prison was removed here.

Did part of those coals go to lighting the fire of the public kitchen?—No.

You never understood there was now any donation, for the purpose of providing the prisoners with coals?—No; there was only that I have stated for the poor-side prisoners.

You supply the prison with beer?—Yes.

Where do you get your beer from?—From Green, in Westminster; we are confined to him.

What do you mean by your being confined to him?—Mr. Jenkins will not allow me to have beer of any other person.

Have you ever expressed a wish to have it from any other person?—Yes, to be sure I have, when I could not sell my beer; I have paid two guineas a week and could not sell fifty shillings worth of beer in a day.

How lately have you expressed that desire?—Two or three months ago.

What is the judgment of the prisoners upon the subject of the beer?—Every man has his different taste, but I am afraid they do not like it.

Do you think that in general they consider the beer as not good?—I know there have been seventy pots of beer in a day brought in from without side, and I have not taken fifty shillings a day.

What reason does Mr. Jenkins assign for not letting you take it from any other person?—There is a debt due to Mr. Green from the man who kept the tap, one Smytheman, for which reason he thinks himself under an obligation to have the beer from Mr. Green, and the ale is had from Mr. Charington; Smytheman was discharged, and Mr. Green was put into the Schedule as a creditor; but it still remains a debt, so that we can have no beer from any person but Mr. Green. Mr. Jenkins says they are very great sufferers by Smytheman not paying his way.

Smytheman kept the tap?—Yes.

He failed in debt to Green?—Yes.

And Mr. Jenkins thinks that Mr. Green having suffered a loss, he ought to supply the prison with beer?—Yes.

What do you pay for your beer per barrel?—I pay 21 *l.* 19*s.* for three butts; what the reduced price is I do not know, for as fast as I take the money, I send it to Mr. Jenkins to pay Green; when I last enquired, Mr. Jenkins told me the fall was only six shillings; I understand the fall altogether is fifteen shillings.

Do you know what it is at other brewhouses?—No.

How long have you kept the tap?—A twelvemonth the second of May; I am sure I have lost money by it; but then I have lent a good deal of money.

Do you receive a penny a pot more than the regular price, when the beer is drank in any particular place?—Yes, in the snuggery we charge a penny a pot extra; we are bound to keep servants, and to find fire and every expense; but in their own rooms and the other ale-room they have it at five-pence per pot, which is the same that they get it out of doors; there are a great many collegians come in and wish to take their wives and families in there, and we keep the place clean for them, and take a penny a pot for that; it has long been the custom of the place.

Do you sell any wine?—No.

Is there any sold in the prison?—Not to my knowledge.

Is any allowed to come into the prison?—Yes, a bottle at a time, or a dozen at a time; I could not sell any, and therefore I thought it was of no use to renew the license.

You would not be prevented by the Marshal selling it?—No.

If you sold good beer, you would sell more?—Yes, I have no doubt of that.

And if you were allowed, you would have it from another person?—Yes, I could have it from Barclay and Perkins at any time.

Jovis

Jovis, 6° die Aprilis, 1815.

Marshalsea Prison.

At the Marshalsea:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in the Chair.

Mr. Charles Phillips was called in, and Examined.

Mr. Charles Phillips.

YOU are the Surgeon attending this prison?—I am.

Have you long attended in the same situation?—About five or six years, to the best of my recollection.

By whom appointed?—Sir James Burgess.

At a fixed salary?—Fifty pounds per annum.

Any other payment?—A few fees, which amount in general to about 9 *l.* upon the average.

Are your instructions written or verbal?—They are written.

[*The Witness delivered in his Appointment.*]

Does the Appointment extend to any thing beyond the prison?—No, merely the prison; with regard to my instructions, they are nothing in particular, except to find medicines, and whatever is connected with that; there are no written instructions with regard to particular attention.

Do you receive the same salary as your predecessor?—My predecessor did not receive the salary of 50 *l*; he received only the fees; in consequence of this, he gave it up. I attended for two or three years, and petitioned the Treasury, and they were pleased to allow me 50 *l.* a year; my account is taken in by Mr. Jenkins with his own.

Do you furnish medicines?—Yes, I do, every thing that belongs to the class of medicines; linen rag, and lint and trusses, and cupping, are paid for extra.

With whom did you make that arrangement?—It was made with Sir James Burgess; and I had some letters from the Treasury, in which I was informed they had listened to my proposal, and Sir James gave me that through Mr. Crutchley, who was then the Prothonotary; if any thing occurs, I am sent to, and see the patients daily till they get well.

In the appointment, fees, wages, salary, profits and appointments are referred to; is there any certain fee?—Yes, a shilling upon the discharge of each prisoner; Mr. Jenkins accounts for it.

You had no salary till this 50 *l.* a year was given?—No; for two or three years I attended without any salary, but in expectation that there would be; and the Treasury were kind enough to make the salary retrospective.

Did you then find medicines?—Yes, I did; I find that in order to do the business as it is expected by the individuals, I cannot gain any thing.

What is your net profit?—I do not think I get more than 12 *l.* counting every thing; I am liable to be called up in the night, and to find every thing if a woman is taken in labour here, either myself or my assistant is obliged to go; that is a branch of the practice we do not contract for; if children of the prisoners are ill, I should forfeit my reputation if I did not attend them.

Does it often occur to you to be called in to the families of prisoners residing here?—Not very frequently, for it is understood the surgeon is to attend those only who are prisoners.

What is the state of health at present?—We are very healthy, and in general so; for if any person is unwell with a feverish disposition, we remove them to the infirmary; there is a male and a female infirmary.

What are the prevalent diseases here?—They are of a mixed kind; I think in general, those arising from debauchery, dissipations and drinking.

Are bowel complaints frequent?—Not frequent, unless as connected with liver disease, the effect of previous drinking; I have never seen any bowel complaint the effect of poor living.

Have you had any complaints made to you on the part of the prisoners, that their bowels were affected by the bad quality of the beer?—No; nor have I been ever able to connect any disease with any mode of living here.

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. Charles Phillips.

Have you had any complaints arising from the badness of the water?—No.

Have you ever examined the nature of the water in the prison?—I confess I have not; my attention has never been directed to it by any complaint.

Have you ever tasted it?—No, I have not; but I find it to be exceedingly general in the world to complain of the water, and in a way that is not necessary; that some effects are attributed to water, which are not attributable to it.

Do you remember attending a man of the name of Tonzeau here?—Yes, I do.

What was his illness?—To the best of my recollection, he had a stomach complaint, and a little feverish indisposition.

Did he state that he attributed that to the quality of the beer?—I do not recollect that he did.

Did you consider it attributable to that?—No; I rather conceived him to be a man who had lived freely, and perhaps disordered his stomach by his mode of living.

Do you conceive that brackish water would have been likely to have produced any effect of that sort, or to have increased his indisposition?—I really think not.

Is the water with which the prison is supplied, the same with which the houses in the neighbourhood are supplied?—I have understood so.

Is it the same as that with which your own house is supplied?—Yes; my house is supplied with that of the London Bridge Company; unless there is a quantity of lime not in a state of fusion, I think little injury arises from it; if there have been any persons ill from poor living, they have had a supply of broth or barley water, or gruel, by my direction, and I can assure the Committee it is always attended to.

Were you surgeon at the time of the death of Thomas Culver?—That was just at the time that I began attending; I was unwell at Brighton; my assistant was attending here; I was not at that time officially appointed.

When you order soup or slops to be given to sick prisoners, at whose expense are they furnished?—Mr. Jenkins takes care to provide those things, and I believe he is reimbursed by the Treasury, when he takes in his account.

Have any complaints ever been made to you of the closeness of the prison; or is it your opinion the prison is sufficiently airy?—I think it is rather confined certainly, but at present we have not had any inconveniences result from the confinement of it; it is very healthy in general.

Do you not think that the want of cleanliness in the prison, as well as the drains being open, and the privies being very offensive, are highly prejudicial to the health of the prisoners?—There is one inconvenience, the water running from the cistern is not carried off sufficiently to be comfortable; but with regard to the others being prejudicial in their effect, I do not conceive that they are particularly so.

Any further than that noisome smells are unwholesome?—No, I do not think it is any thing more than many of our London houses, having a privy near the kitchen or in the cellar, which on the water rising will scent the whole house; I have never perceived any thing particularly noisome.

Have you perceived any illnesses prevalent here that you would not have considered naturally prevalent among the same number of persons any where else?—I have never seen any thing with regard to the establishment, or the economy of the prison, that could be the cause of indisposition.

Have you any stated times of visiting, or do you come when you are sent for?—I come when I am sent for; and if I find a patient unwell, I come every day till the patient is recovered.

Have you any stated time, if you are not sent for?—As I go by, I call and enquire whether any thing is wanted, but I live very near.

You do not come here once or twice a week?—No; if any person is taken ill, I am sent for immediately.

Have you ever had occasion to call in further advice?—No, never.

Have you had any deaths in the prison?—One or two since I have been appointed.

Within the last twelvemonth?—No, not within that time.

Have you found the prisoners under your attendance, suffering from want of food?—

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Mr. Charles Phillips.

food?—Sometimes; but knowing it to be so, we always have it attended to; of late, since the affair of Culver, I have kept a register of patients when they are sick, and give a daily report what they are in want of, such as the quantity of bread and tea, and gruel and barley water required, and that is always attended to, and when they are well, I make a memorandum of its being discontinued.

Should you think, if a man had no other support, the 3*s.* 6*d.* was sufficient to maintain him in health?—I should think not quite sufficient, considering that the persons who come here, many of them have indulged in a free mode of living, and if they lose the support of porter and so on, they pine and fall into ill health in consequence.

Have you ever had occasion to employ nurses?—We do so sometimes, when they are seriously unwell, and have no wife or friend that can pay attention to them, such as for taking care of the fire in the night, and giving them their medicines.

Did you ever have occasion to sleep in the prison yourself?—Never.

Who pays the nurses?—Mr. Jenkins, and he charges it in his account.

Mr. *William Jenkins* was again called in, and Examined.

Mr. William Jenkins.

Is there a list of the charities hung up in the prison?—There is not; but the Steward of the poor-side has a list of them.

Can you state generally to what they annually amount?—I can, by reference to the list, which I will furnish.

Was there not a donation by the late Duchess of Gloucester, of a certain allowance of coals to this prison?—There was formerly, but it has been discontinued ever since the death of her Royal Highness.

It was not by a legacy?—No; it was a voluntary donation of the Duke or Duchess of Gloucester.

It ceased at her death?—Yes.

At what period did that allowance cease?—About the time of her Highness's death.

Has there been no allowance of coals continued on since that time?—Never, to my knowledge; and I must have known it if that had been the case; there were two or three charities that were discontinued; fifteen stone of beef came, as it was supposed, under the will of the late Mr. Baron Smyth; I enquired at the Commons, and there was no such thing there; it was a voluntary thing, and ceased as a matter of course.

Is there occasionally in the prison considerable inconvenience suffered by the prisoners for want of food?—I have heard no complaints of that nature since we have been in this place; such complaints have been made in the old place; but since the allowance of sixpence a day from the county, no such complaint has reached me.

That allowance is made to persons under mesne process?—Yes.

When they are supersedable, or under execution, it ceases?—Yes, if they come in under execution here, that allowance is continued till the first day of the succeeding term, they have then an opportunity of suing their creditors, and the allowance ceases.

Do you know the expense of suing a creditor for that allowance?—The expense is one guinea, but that is generally paid by the Society for the relief of prisoners imprisoned for small debts in Craven-street.

Is it the custom for the prisoner, on suing for that allowance, to deposit in the hands of the Deputy Marshal one guinea?—It is, unless his petition is answered; I have a contract with the Society in Craven-street, to sue for the sixpences; and in some cases, where the character of the prisoner is not approved, the petition is not answered, and I then charge the prisoner the guinea; and if the petition is afterwards granted, I return him the guinea.

Has any person who cannot raise the money any means of suing for his sixpences?—I have never refused to do it; the very last term there was a man who was poor; the charity would not allow it, and I did it for him.

Do you ever refuse presenting a petition to one of those charities unless the deposit of the guinea is made in your hands?—I never refuse; the petitions are in a printed form, and they are given out whenever they are applied for; this is the last day of serving notices for the ensuing term; for the second list, as it is called, a person might come in to-day in execution, he would then be in a

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. *William Jenkins.*

situation to serve his plaintiff in the course of the day, and he might send his petition to Craven-street; but it would be some time before it could be answered.

You do not require the guinea to be deposited before the petition is sent to Craven-street, but before you serve the summonses?—Certainly; the deposit of the guinea has nothing to do with sending the petition to Craven-street.

If you did not advance, from your own pocket, the guinea to the prisoners, there would be cases in which they would not be able to sue for their sixpences? —There would be, in that case; but I never refused it.

For what is the guinea?—The serving the notices, and the preparing the papers.

Have any complaints ever been made to you that the supply of water is inadequate for the use of the prisoners?—I never had any complaint of that kind, unless when there has been a severe frost.

Did you ever communicate to the Treasury the bad state of the drains, and the insufficient mode in which the water is carried off?—I have not communicated the state of the drains; I had several communications with their lordships at the time the wall fell down; I understood the determination of their lordships to be, that the adjoining premises should not be purchased, and I considered, with the limited space we had, there was no preventing it.

Do not you think that it might be in a measure prevented by a covered drain? —In some degree, certainly; but I understand there is a general complaint of the sewers in the Borough.

Have you had any complaint lately made to you as to the malt liquor being objectionable?—I have heard that it is not so good as it ought to be; but it sometimes happens that the beer, even from the best houses, is bad, and it has in some cases been returned, when I have heard of that.

Is it not in your knowledge that above seventy pots of beer are daily brought into the prison?—I do not know what number, but I should imagine a great many.

Have complaints been made to you by the mistress of the tap, that she has not been able to sell sufficient to pay her rent, in consequence of the bad quality?—No, she has never said that.

Did she ever complain to you, that in consequence of the beer being of a bad quality, she could not sell so much as she otherwise should?—No.

Has she ever intimated a wish to change the brewer?—Yes; for some accommodation of her own she has wished that; but not from objection to the beer, I understand.

What reason have you to suppose that her reason was some accommodation of her own?—I believe if she was to have the appointment of her own brewer, she might have some trifling allowance from him.

Do you employ the same porter brewer for your own family? No, I do not.

Have you any reason to believe that the wish of the woman who keeps the tap to change her brewer, is owing to some private motive, rather than to some complaint she has received of the bad quality of the beer?—It can be only matter of opinion with me; but the last time I saw her, she told me, "the beer from Green & Co. is as good as that from any brewhouse in London;" I cannot account for it, unless it is injured by mixture after it comes here; I have been with Mr. Green often, and he has assured me the best beer he has in his cellar shall be sent here, for the most obvious reasons.

If the woman at the tap should state to you, that she could not sell Mr. Green's beer, and that that was her reason for wishing to change the brewer, would you consent to such an exchange?—I should, under certain circumstances; but it would be necessary, in the first instance, to remonstrate with the brewer on the subject, because I am responsible to the brewer for a considerable sum; the brewer has been a loser by this place; but certainly I would not permit Messrs. Green to supply this place, unless they would send a good article.

The circumstances to which you allude are, that he had suffered from the insolvency of the last master of the tap?—Exactly so.

You consider yourself in consequence, as in a manner bound to give Mr. Green the advantage of remunerating himself for the losses he has sustained by the sale of his beer within this prison?—That has been my only reason.

If the beer should be of so bad a quality, that you thought it injurious to the health

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Mr. William Jenkins.

health of the prisoners, or not suitable to their palate, you would remonstrate?—Certainly; and if it was not remedied, I should appoint some other brewer.

In point of fact, these complaints have not been made?—No.

Neither by the mistress of the tap nor the prisoners?—The mistress of the tap has said, that such a butt of beer was not good, and I have directed that the brewer should come and fetch it away; but on other occasions she has said in her own words, "Green's beer is as good as any beer in London."

Is the water that serves the prison the same that serves your own family?—Not the pump water, I send across the street for pump water, the other is the same.

Do you know how long the well has been sunk that supplies the prison?—I do not; I believe it has been ever since the old County Gaol was kept here.

You do not know its depth?—No, I do not; it has never been opened since I have been here.

Do you admit indiscriminately any person that knocks at the gate to see the debtors confined within the walls of the prison?—Yes.

Is it customary for women to sleep in the prison?—It always has been the case.

If you knew whether a woman was a man's wife or not, you would not interfere to prevent their having women, as long as they conducted themselves orderly?—I should not interfere if they conducted themselves in an orderly manner; the prisoners who are brought here are mostly persons who have had their goods seized from them, and they are so extremely poor, that their families frequently must sleep in the streets if I did not permit it; it is a sort of asylum for them.

Have many of the debtors their wives and families here?—A great many have; I do not know how many.

Have the Admiralty prisoners the same permission to see their friends, the warrant officers?—They have always had the same liberty as the debtors, unless they have abused it.

Women may visit them and stay with them as long as they choose?—They may, unless that liberty is abused, which it has been in one or two instances.

You mean by abuse, women conducting themselves riotously?—Yes, being drunk and fighting.

If women do not conduct themselves ill by drunkenness and rioting, you admit them freely within the walls of the prison?—I have permitted them to stay.

In point of fact, do you believe that there are many women living in the prison with men not their husbands?—I do not believe there have been many; when I have heard of it, I have sent for the men, and they have assured me that the women were their wives.

Do you go the length of taking any cognizance upon the subject?—I never interfere unless there is complaint made to me of any irregularity; there have been such complaints, and I have been obliged to send one to the watch-house.

Have you any instructions from the Treasury as to the allowances you are permitted to make for expenses incurred within this prison?—No particular instructions; since I have been in this place, I have had some repairs and alterations that I thought necessary done, and have charged them.

In what manner do you conduct yourself in carrying in the bill to the Treasury, for broth and certain comforts that are occasionally furnished to the prisoners who are ill?—I send in my account, that is referred to Mr. Litchfield, the Solicitor for the Treasury, and I pass my account with him, having the certificate of the surgeon as to the broth and so on furnished to the prisoners.

You have never met with any illiberality in passing your account?—No; only I have been cautioned by the Solicitor to make my expenses as low as possible; but there never has been an objection to my charges in case of sickness and so on.

Have you ever had any debtor here in such a state of distress as to be in want of proper clothing?—I do not recollect any man to have been in so bad a state as to require clothing.

If such a case was to occur, should you consider yourself justified in allowing that?—I cannot say; no case of that kind has ever occurred; I could not see a man go naked certainly.

The Admiralty allow clothing to the Admiralty prisoners?—Yes, and a shilling a day, which is paid them every morning, the petty officers have sixpence a day, if they apply for it; it is done by memorial to Mr. Croker.

Are the men often kept in solitary confinement for a length of time?—They are

Marshalsea Prison.

are sent into that yard frequently, for one or two years; they are all at night in solitary confinement, except the officers.

Rev. Thomas Webster.

The Reverend *Thomas Webster* was called in, and Examined.

Do you act as Chaplain to this prison?—Rather as Curate; I do the whole of the duty for the Chaplain Mr. Trollope, and have done for these seventeen or eighteen years.

What salary does Mr. Trollope allow you for doing duty?—He allows me twenty pounds a year salary, besides the fees, which amount to ten or twelve pounds.

There is service once on a Sunday?—Yes.

Is there any occasional service here?—No, except Christmas-day and Good Friday, and Fasting Days, if any are appointed.

Do you often attend in the prison, persons when they are sick, or is it part of your duty to attend the Admiralty prisoners who are here, either in solitary confinement or for the purposes of punishment?—I must declare that I am very happy to say, I am called upon very little, for the prison appears to be quite healthy; I have very few sick to visit.

Do you visit the Admiralty prisoners who are confined here?—They come into the Chapel; if they came into sickness and called for me, I should go immediately.

You do not feel it part of your duty to attend and admonish them in the hopes of the advice you give them leading to better conduct in the future?—I scarcely know what answer to give to the question, because it is not common with the clergy to attend even amongst their own congregation; if they find any one running into egregious errors, they certainly think it their duty, but I have not heard of any of these poor things that have been confined here being so very refractory as to require any particular admonition, especially from me.

In point of fact, do you ever visit the prison on the week days?—Never.

Have you been sent for to sick prisoners frequently?—Very unfrequently.

Have you been sent for within the last six months?—Not once.

Have you ever been sent for to admonish any of the Admiralty prisoners?—Never.

If you were sent for, you would attend? Certainly.

You would consider yourself bound to attend?—Certainly.

Have you any written instructions?—I have none; I never had any.

Are any Bibles distributed in the prison; or is there any Bible where the Admiralty prisoners are confined?—I have all along been obliged myself to find a Bible at the Church; and there are no Prayer Books for the poor prisoners when they attend the Chapel, nor no Bibles; I mentioned the matter to Mr. Trollope; he said he would endeavour to provide, but he has not at present.

How long ago was that mentioned to Mr. Trollope?—More than six months; but Mr. Trollope informed me, that if he did provide, it must be out of his own pocket.

Does Mr. Trollope in any case attend here?—No, he does not.

Do you preach a sermon every Sunday?—Always.

Is the attendance numerous?—I cannot find fault with them in that respect; at first when I came here, they used to compel those on the poor-side to attend; but I am not fond of any kind of force to religion, and I advised it should be set aside, and I have found the attendance much more numerous than it was before.

What number of persons should you think attend the chapel, independent of the Admiralty prisoners, every Sunday?—We have seldom more than fourteen or fifteen, sometimes twenty.

The Admiralty prisoners are forced to attend, are they not?—I do not know, indeed.

What number of persons are confined here generally?—About three score, I think.

Is there a Clerk to lead the responses?—There has not been a Clerk of late; and that burthen has lain upon me to request some one would come, and I have paid a Clerk his salary myself, for these eighteen years, nearly the whole time I have been here, out of my own pocket; I could not expect them to attend without something; I have given them but a shilling a month neither.

Marshalsea Prison.

Rev. Thomas Webster.

Is the Clerk a debtor?—Always a debtor; I could wish him to be a debtor.

Do the prisoners behave decently in chapel?—Extremely well.

Is there any division between the men and the women prisoners in chapel?—I do not recollect any thing of the kind.

Do any women attend chapel?—Yes.

Do the children that are in the prison attend chapel?—Several of them come.

Is the sacrament ever administered here?—No; Sir James Burgess wished it much to be done, and it is a matter I wished to be attended to; but I gave notice, and I delivered a sermon on the subject, but there was not a single soul came; and at that time there were two or three persons whose names I do not recollect, some of the genteel sort of the prisoners; I was conversing with them, and they told me that they were much hurt at hearing the sacrament should be administered in such a place as this,—such a profligate place, like all other prisons, they said, "we cannot compose our minds, to attend upon so sacred an ordinance while we are confined here."

Owing to the profligacy of the prison?—There is not more than in any other prison; I believe there is less here than there is in most prisons, very little for a prison.

Have you never made the experiment since?—No.

Mr. John Stirling was called in at his own request, and Examined.

Mr. John Stirling.

Have you any complaint to make to the Committee?—There is no allowance for me here; I am an Admiralty prisoner.

You are a Warrant Officer?—A Midshipman.

Is there not an allowance of sixpence a day?—I have been given to understand they do not allow it.

Have you petitioned for it?—No; and if it is only sixpence a day, it is not worth applying for, I pay sixpence a day for my bed here.

How long have you been here?—About six months and a half.

What is the term of your imprisonment?—A twelve month.

Does your pay go on while you are here?—No.

Have you not been informed that you may receive sixpence a day on petition?—Yes; but if no more than that is allowed, I would as soon go without it as petition for it.

Jonathan Davy was called in at his own request, and Examined.

Jonathan Davy.

Have you anything to state to the Committee?—My wife and myself are both prisoners here, and we have no allowance.

How long have you been here?—We have been here fourteen weeks.

Have you any property of your own?—None at all.

Do you know that there are any allowances to prisoners?—There is some allowance on the poor-side, but I do not know what it is.

Can you swear that you are not worth 10 *l.*?—Yes; when I first came here I had to pay 2 *s.* a night for bedding, or I must have slept in the ale-room; and my sleeping with my wife there with a parcel of men, would have been very unpleasant.

How many nights did you pay that?—I have paid after the rate of that, ever since I have been here.

Do you pay after that rate now?—Yes.

To whom do you pay that?—To the Landlady of the public house, for a room up stairs.

She lets you a room in which you sleep with your wife, and for which you pay 2 *s.* a night?—Yes.

And you have paid the 2 *s.* a night ever since you have been here?—Yes.

And your money has so run out, you are not worth 10 *l.* now?—Yes; I had an empty room given me, but I have little or no furniture to put in, and I could not sleep on the bare boards.

What have you done with the room, have you let it?—Yes; but I have not been able to let it for the last three weeks.

For what have you let it?—Three shillings a week.

Have you received any allowances?—Yes, when I first came in, but my plaintiff dropped me; I was not therefore entitled to any thing.

Marshalsea Prison.

Jonathan Davy.

If your plaintiff has dropped you, under what circumstances are you now in prison?—Because I cannot pay my debts, and I expect a detainer as soon as I get out.

Are you not a prisoner here by your own consent?—I suppose I may be, but I cannot tell.

Are you not supersedable?—I suppose I may be.

Is there not a person called the Secretary of the prisoners, who has a list of the charities, and would shew them to any prisoner who asked for them?—There is a Secretary, the person who keeps the chandler shop; but I know nothing of them.

How long is it since your plaintiff dropped you?—I think it is about a month.

Up to that time did you receive your sixpences?—Till within a fortnight of that.

Is there any detainer against you now?—Not that I know of; but there have been several who have threatened me with one.

Do you carry on your business in the prison?—No.

What is your motive for staying in?—I am afraid we shall both be sent in again; by stopping in the time, I can take the benefit of the Act; I have been in fourteen weeks next Saturday, and I have employed an agent to endeavour to settle my affairs to let me out; they are all my wife's debts; they are not a farthing of them my own.

Had your wife a separate trade of her own?—Yes, before her marriage; there are none of the debts after our marriage.

George Clump was called in, and Examined.

George Clump.

What is the nature of your situation as Secretary to the prisoners?—To receive the fees of the prisoners as they come in, and to keep the account of every thing expended, such as coals, candles, newspapers, and every thing of that sort.

What fees do you receive of the prisoners as they come in?—For the support of the ale-room.

Do you receive that of every prisoner that comes in?—Yes.

What means have you of enforcing it?—We do not enforce it; if they have not the money, they pay it at a shilling a time, as they receive the county sixpences.

What is the amount of it?—Eight shillings.

What consequences arise to the prisoners if they do not pay it?—Only that they are not entitled to the privileges of that room, the fire and newspapers, and candles.

Does every prisoner, in fact, pay it?—Yes.

Men and women?—Yes; the women pay only 5*s.* 6*d.*

Do they often come into the ale-room?—They have the boiling water from it.

Have they any other privilege?—The newspapers.

Do they dress any thing there?—Oh yes, they may.

They may come and dress their victuals at the fire?—Yes.

Then they carry it to their own room to eat it?—Yes.

Have they any other place to cook in, except that and their own rooms?—No.

Of the eight shillings, one shilling goes to yourself and the other seven to the fund?—Yes.

Is it a daily or weekly newspaper you take in?—It is a daily newspaper, the British Press.

Have you any management of the charities?—No; a person of the name of George Nottage, the Steward on the poor-side, has.

When a prisoner comes in, it is your business to go and tell him of all the circumstances that take place in the prison?—I am called down to the lobby as soon as a prisoner comes in, and then they say, "if you walk along with that gentleman, he will endeavour to get you a bed, and do every thing that is necessary;" then I give in his name to get him the county sixpences, and to procure him every thing he wants.

Can you state why Mr. Davy has no allowance of any kind?—Perhaps he has not sworn himself on the poor-side; I understand those who are on the poor-side are obliged to swear themselves not worth two pounds; and for the county sixpences, that they are not worth ten pounds.

Marshalsea Prison.

George Clump.

Do you know what means the prisoners have of purchasing coals, who are not subscribers to your fund?—There are not any but what are subscribers.

Do you ask the same fees from those on the poor-side as on the master's side?—Yes; it is not known on which side they are at that time.

If people do not pay the fees, are they allowed to come into that room?—There are none who do not pay them; if they cannot pay them, we collect it among ourselves, or it is forgiven them.

How long have you been Secretary?—Eleven months.

Who passes your accounts?—There is a Committee of nine and a Chairman, who assemble on Monday morning at eleven o'clock; they are fined threepence if they do not attend; the Committee is appointed the last Wednesday in every month, and likewise the Secretary is nominated, and the master of the ale-room; and the scavenger, he has four shillings a week out of this fund for keeping the place clean.

What place?—The prison and privies and every thing else; there is about six bushels of coals found for the ale-room out of the fund.

[*The Witness went and fetched his book.*]

Is the payment of the subscription a necessary condition before a prisoner is chummed?—No.

The first rule in the book you have produced, states that the payment of seven shillings entitles a person to the use of the ale-room, &c. and of immediate chummage; how came that to be inserted?—I believe it is copied from an old paper.

Would the payment of the subscription to the ale-room have any effect in expediting the chummage?—No; Mr. Jenkins has nothing to do with that payment; as soon as they come in, they are called down, and the chum ticket is given to them, whether they have paid that fee or not.

How do you account for that being placed among those Rules?—I do not know; those were drawn up by Mr. Richardson, an Attorney, who was here in August 1814; there were some amendments made, and they were read over to the prisoners at large, and approved of.

They were assented to by the prisoners?—Yes, they were.

For what offences are prisoners generally sent to coventry?—For disobeying the Rules; such as throwing water out of windows, or filth out of any of their respective rooms; that is a fine of nine-pence.

For non-payment of that, they are sent to coventry?—Yes.

Does the chum-ticket express the room a man is to have?—Yes.

Do you chum a person according to the Regulations?—I have nothing to do with the chumming; Mr. Jenkins, junior, does that himself.

Are those Rlues confirmed by the Marshal?—No, he knows nothing about them; he has nothing to do with them.

In the paper you have delivered in as to the weekly expenses, they amount in one week to 2 *l.* 2 *s.* 4 *d.*; is that the average, or 1 *l.* 13 *s.* 8 *d.*?—About 1 *l.* 15 *s.* I should think, is about the average; the expense of candles will be reduced as the day gets longer.

Is the sum of five shillings paid to the Master of the ale-room in the nature of a rent?—No, for his attendance; he gets up in the morning, the water is to be boiling by eight o'clock in the morning, or he forfeits nine-pence, and it is to remain boiling till half past ten, and then from half past four to seven, ready for any that want it; the other hours the fire is used for cooking.

Eight shillings is the subscription you now receive?—Yes.

It appears by the articles you have delivered in, that seven shillings is the amount of it?—The seven shillings I account for, and the shilling is for myself.

Do you, as Secretary of the Institution, always receive seven shillings a week?—Yes; but I frequently do not get the shilling for the chummage.

How do you mean for the chummage; you do not chum them?—No, but I am liable to give information for any thing that the collegians may want when they first come in, as to their county sixpences, and every thing of that sort.

Do you constantly receive seven shillings a week?—In consequence of the fund's being low, I have dropped my salary to five shillings, and the Master of the ale-room dropt his two shillings a week also.

George Clump.

Whenever the fund is rich, you will take seven shillings a week again?—Yes, then they will agree to my being allowed that.

Who is the college guide?—The person who shews the prisoner the Rules when he first comes in.

Do not you do that?—No, I have nothing to do with that.

Does every person subscribing to this belong to the College?—Yes.

You go down to the gate to receive every new prisoner?—Yes.

For what do you go down?—To give him information, and to provide him with a bed.

To tell him every thing but the college rules?—Yes, and to put him into the method of getting the county sixpences, or of sueing his plaintiff.

Who is Master of the ale-room?—Mr. Nottage, the Steward of the poor-side.

Is he a poor-side debtor?—Yes, he is.

What is the nature of the ale-room?—It is for the general accommodation of the whole.

Does any body pay any thing to go into it?—No, those fees entitle them to go into it.

Do you pay any rent to the Marshal?—No, not for the ale-room.

You keep the chandler's shop?—Yes, I do.

You pay a rent for that?—Yes, I pay Mr. Jenkins half-a-guinea a week.

Has that been always paid?—Yes, it has always been so.

Have you another room?—Yes, I have; I was chummed in No. 2. and when the person left the shop, I took the shop of Mr. Jenkins.

Do you let your room?—No, I do not.

Do you sell your goods at the same prices as they are sold out of doors?—Yes; I do not know that there is any difference.

Did your predecessor pay the same sum?—Yes.

How were you appointed; did you apply for the appointment, or was there a competition among many?—No, there was no competition; I paid the person who let it ten pounds for the fixtures.

Are you a prisoner for debt?—Yes, I am; I have been here twelve months to-morrow.

What sort of shop is your's?—A chandler's shop.

George Nottage was called in, and Examined.

George Nottage.

What are you?—Steward of the poor-side. This is my book, which I keep, [*producing it*]. This is a List of our Donations [*producing it*]; and this is the book in which I insert them, when I receive them.

Is there a list of the donations hung up in any part of the prison?—No.

How long have you been Steward?—From a little before Christmas, I think from November.

Did you ever hear that a list was hung up?—No.

In what way is any person acquainted with the donations and charities on coming into the prison?—By applying to Mr. Jenkins.

Does Mr. Jenkins know?—Yes, he has them all in his book, to which he has made an affidavit; and I should have to go up to the Court on the Friday before Christmas, if I was Steward a twelvemonth.

Are they all paid to you?—They all come to me, and I distribute them.

By what rule do you distribute them?—Equally to all persons who swear they are not worth 2 *l.*

Before whom do they make that oath?—Before Mr. Jenkins; I write them out the affidavit.

Does Mr. Jenkins administer the oath?—Yes, he does.

What number have you on the poor-side now?—Twelve.

How does any man know how many there are to share with him, or what he is to receive?—Because they all have to sign their names to a petition; we have to write a petition for any little article we receive, and they all sign their names to that petition.

Who divides it?—I do.

Do you produce your accounts?—Yes.

To whom?—To Mr. Jenkins.

How often?—Every month.

Do you mean that a petition for each of those legacies is signed by all the prisoners on the poor's side?—Yes.

George Nottage.

To whom?—To the persons that the charity belongs to; we send a man that attends here, he comes backward and forwards, a man of the name of Smith; we pay him what we can afford, sixpence a-piece for bringing them in.

Whether they are bread, or meat, or money?—The bread is always sent without a petition, and the meat without a petition; that comes thirty-two pounds every Saturday.

How are you chosen?—By the people on the poor-side.

Does the election take place for the time you are in the prison?—No, only for such time as I do what is right and just, and satisfy them.

What advantage have you from being the Steward?—None at all; only one advantage, that I am not chummed on.

You have a room to yourself?—Yes, I have as Steward, but I have not a single penny.

Supposing there are only three or four prisoners, does the whole of the bread come in?—Yes.

Do they sell it again if there are but few?—No; if they sold it again, they would be scratched off; but there never have been so few while I have been here, and they have most of them large families.

Can you state why Mr. Davy is not on the poor-side?—Because a gentleman allows him 2 *l.* a week.

Has he ever applied to you to swear himself not worth 2 *l.*?—No; if any gentleman applied to me, I should write out his affidavit; and if there was any objection, it would be mentioned before Mr. Jenkins.

What do you receive for writing out the affidavit?—I receive a shilling for chumming those on the poor-side, and writing out the affidavit; Mr. Jenkins does not chum them, he leaves that to me.

In what manner do you chum them?—Regularly, when any one leaves, he is scratched out.

How many have you in a room?—There are four rooms that are single I think, and three ladies on the poor-side.

You receive no more for the single rooms than for the others?—No; I receive a shilling from every man who takes the oath; there are two rooms in our staircase that have two in them.

What principle do you follow; why are there two rooms with two persons, and four with single persons?—They have been chummed together, and they agree together, and would not wish to part.

Are those larger rooms than the others?—No, they are all the same size.

Are there any vacant rooms on the poor's side?—Yes.

Have the prisoners on the poor-side the liberty of inspecting the book containing your account, whenever they please?—Yes.

Is there any record kept of the number of persons among whom the charity is divided at any particular time?—No.

Can the prisoners inspect the accounts that are passed by Mr. Jenkins?—Yes.

What are those accounts?—They are only the same as that I have delivered in; he has to make an affidavit that such and such things come, and that I have received them.

Are they Accounts of the disbursements as well as the receipts?—No.

You are not answerable to any person for the manner in which you distribute those?—No.

You consider yourself bound to distribute them equally among all the prisoners?—Yes; every prisoner knows what comes in, and when it is got, we divide it as near as possible.

What is the largest sum you receive at one time?—Five guineas.

Mr. William Jenkins, junior, was called in, and Examined.

Mr. William Jenkins.

You are the Chum-master?—Yes.

Have you ever seen the Rules of what they call the College?—No, I never have.

It is stated in the first of these Articles, that the fee of seven shillings, which is paid to the Subscription Fund, will entitle the prisoner to an immediate chummage, and the benefits arising from the ale-room; explain in what manner a prisoner receives an advantage from the subscription to that Fund?—When a prisoner is brought in custody, the Secretary is called up, and goes down with him

Marshalsea Prison.

Mr. William Jenkins.

him; he demands eight shillings, that is for leave to sit in the ale-room, to have the use of the fire and hot water, and any other necessary; his cooking may be done there, and he is at liberty to sit there all day long, and to do as he pleases there; the eight shillings has nothing to do with the chummage, for soon after they come in, I call them and give them a chum-ticket, and direct them to the room where they are to go.

If a man was to refuse to pay the eight shillings, would he have his chummage notwithstanding?—Certainly.

In what manner would a prisoner who did not belong to the Subscription Fund, purchase coals?—He must purchase them all out of his own pocket.

Is there any person employed to go and procure such articles?—No, I do not know that there is.

Are there in fact any instances of persons who do not subscribe to the Fund?—No, I never heard that there were any; it is a rule made among themselves.

Veneris, 7° die Aprilis, 1815.

At The House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in the Chair.

Sir *James Bland Burgess*, Baronet, called in, and Examined.

Sir J. B. Burgess.

WHAT office do you hold, that is at all connected with the Marshalsea prison?—Here are the Letters Patent in which I am constituted "Marshal of His Majesty's Household, and Marshal of the Marshalsea of the Household;" there are three Judges of the Court; my Lord Steward of the Household, Marshal of the Household, and Steward of the Court.

In which of these characters have you any connection with the prison?—I have only connection with it as being Marshal of the King's Household.

Who appoints the officers of the prison?—I appoint every officer of the court and of the prison.

Is the prison specially attached to the Court?—It is.

Are there any persons confined in the Marshalsea prison as debtors, except such as are sued in the Marshalsea court?—None.

What is the limit of the jurisdiction of the court?—Taking the Palace of Westminster within 12 miles round it, excluding the members of the King's Household.

Is there any limitation as to the amount of the debt that is to be sued for in that court?—None.

By what particular appointment have you the nomination of all the officers of the court and the prison, being only one of the judges of the court?—By the authority of the two patents of King Charles the First, and Charles the Second; by those patents it is directed, "That there shall be hereafter, in some convenient place within 12 miles from our said palace of Westminster, and within the jurisdiction of the court aforesaid, one prison or jail, for the keeping detaining and safe custody of all and singular persons within the precinct or jurisdiction of the court aforesaid, attached or to be attached for any cause whatever, which shall happen to be taken cognizance of or held in the court aforesaid, or are begun there, to be detained until they shall be in a legal manner discharged; and also we will by these presents, for us our heirs and successors, grant ordain and constitute that there be for ever in the court of the Lord the King of the King's Palace at Westminster aforesaid, an under Marshal of the court aforesaid, who shall have the custody of the prison or jail aforesaid and of the prisoners therein being;" These patents further grant "to the Marshal of the Household of us our heirs and successors for the time being, full power and authority of nominating ordaining constituting and admitting one other person, to be under-marshal of the court aforesaid, and keeper of the prison of the court aforesaid, and of the prisoners therein being, who shall do and execute all things which to the office of the keeper of the prison of the aforesaid court appertain to be done;

and

and one other fit person to be door keeper of the same prison;" in pursuance of this authority, I appointed Mr. William Jenkins under-marshal and keeper of the prison, who was sworn in and admitted in court.

By what authority is the surgeon and chaplain appointed?—They are not mentioned in the patent; they are appointed by the Treasury, on my recommendation.

Who appoints the others officers of the prison?—It was by an order from the Treasury that I made my report of the sufficient number of officers, and the salary that ought to be annexed to them.

Was that report acted upon?—The recommendations in the report were not exactly attended to; but it was attended to in substance, because officers were appointed, with regular salaries paid by the Treasury.

How long is it since a chaplain and surgeon have been appointed to that prison?—I apprehend there must always have been a Chaplain attached to the office of Marshal; I always understood so.

Was it a part of the duty of that Chaplain to attend the prison?—Yes; of course the duty is performed every Sunday. The Chaplain was an ancient appointment, but there was an alteration made before I had anything to do with it; he received a salary of 50*l.* a year; before that he received about 10*l.* a year; but that was before my appointment: I myself stated the propriety of having a Surgeon appointed to the prison, because complaints had been made to the court of the bad care taken of the poor people there: I mentioned it to the Treasury, and they appointed a gentlemen surgeon to the prison, and gave him a salary of 50*l.* a year; that is a recent appointment.

Then, further than the appointment of the Deputy Marshal, and one other officer of the prison, do you consider yourself as having any thing to do with the prison itself?—Clearly not; I am entitled to no authority but that arising from the patent.

What arrangement existed with respect to the appointment of the under-marshal?—The under-marshal is entitled to prison fees, as I understand; I am told he is so under the patent; the amount of which I do not know; but he has in addition to this, fees and salary paid by Government of I believe 300*l.* a year, and a house and other advantages of that sort: this is a recent allowance when he was appointed; at the same time an appointment took place of two turnkeys and of two watchmen, equally paid by the Treasury.

Is the Deputy Marshal liable for escapes?—I apprehend entirely so.

You do not consider yourself as liable for escapes?—Certainly not.

Do you ever feel it to be a part of your duty to visit the prison?—Certainly, as one of the Judges of the court.

Is it within your knowledge that the other two judges of the court consider it part of their duty to visit?—Certainly; I have gone over the prison several times, with the successive Lord Stewards and with the Steward of the court; it frequently happens that complaints have been made, and we thought it our duty to inquire whether they were true or not.

Then you do not consider yourself as having any more jurisdiction in the management and direction of the concerns of that prison than the other two Judges of the Court?—Certainly not; I consider myself as *functus officio* when I have executed the power given me here, of appointing a keeper of the prison; and I have not any power over him, but as a judge of the court.

Do you act as a judge in the court now?—Yes, I do; it is discretionary with the Lord Steward and the Marshal of the King's Household, to attend as judges, or not: there is a regular judge, which must attend every day as Steward of the court; he is a law officer, and bound to attend; when we do go, we take our precedence of him.

Do you enjoy any fees?—There is a schedule of fees annexed to the patent of Charles the 1st, which is the guide for the court, and no other fees can legally be taken.

What is the nature of those fees?—All the fees of the court are divisible between the Marshal of the Household, Steward of the Court, Prothonotary of the Court, Deputy Prothonotary, Crier, Keeper of the prison and Turnkey, or as he is described here, door-keeper; I believe these are all who are entitled to any fees; the greater part of these fees arise from the judicial business of the court; there is a fee upon almost every proceeding of the court, which goes to one officer or the other; there is one distinct fee of 20*d.* on discharge of each prisoner

Marshalsea Prison.

Sir J. B. Burgess.

prisoner from the prison, which is given by this patent to the Marshal of the Household: there are a number of other fees given by this same schedule, which I do not recollect, to the Under-Marshal, or Keeper and the Turnkey.

Are the communications which take place between the Keeper of the prison and the Treasury, concerning this prison, made through you, or directly from the Keeper to the Treasury?—Ever since his appointment they have been made directly through him; I have nothing to do with them.

Do you happen to know whether the Marshalsea prison is visited by any other magistrates except the Judges of the court?—I really do not know.

Is the Under-marshal appointed for life, or during pleasure?—For life, by the direction of the patent; I have no power to turn him out; I have not even power to turn out the Turnkey.

Veneris, 14° *die Aprilis*, 1815.

At The House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in the Chair.

New London Prison.

William Mountague, Esquire, called in, and Examined.

William Mountague, Esq.

YOU are Surveyor to the city of London?—I am Surveyor to the Committee for the erection of the New London Prison for Debtors, but not generally their Surveyor.

Have you brought with you the Plans?—Yes.

[*The Witness produced them.*]

What progress has been made in the building since this time last year?—The whole carcase of the building is covered in; the boundary wall is completed; and the proportions of the prison intended for the accommodation of women debtors, of the debtors from the Giltspur-street and Poultry compters, and the Ludgate debtors, is nearly finished.

In what time will the part intended for the prisoners in Newgate, be completed?—That will depend upon the ability of the Committee to pay for it, for they have no money at present.

Are the works now going on?—The works are now going on.

They have not been stopped at all in consequence of a deficiency of money?—No; I think the Committee have now expended all the money they had: If they were to pay all that is due, and that which would be required to finish the whole, they must come again to Parliament.

Do you recollect what is the amount of money already expended?—I think they have already paid about two or three-and-thirty-thousand pounds.

What was the whole amount of the money to be expended?—It was stated in the Estimate to Parliament about 68,000 *l.*

Do you think it will be completed for that sum?—I think it will.

Does that sum include the mere building, or the furnishing the rooms with beds, &c.?—Certainly only the building; nothing with respect to furniture.

Is there any estimate to what amount it will cost for furniture?—None.

Glazing of course is included?—Certainly; it will be made complete for habitation and use.

How soon will the different parts be fit for habitation?—If the Committee for conducting this concern were not restricted for want of money, and they would give me a carte blanche, I would engage to have the whole fit for the complete habitation of all the prisoners by the first of August.

That is to say, the expense would not be greater than the estimate you have already given in?—No; I think I could undertake to do it for that.

As the expense of the prison will not probably exceed the estimate, what is the ground of apprehension that further money will be wanting?—Because a depreciation has taken place in the value of the bonds by which money was raised; and because, also, a large portion of property has been purchased adjoining the prison, not included in the Act of Parliament.

For

New London Prison.

William Mountague, Esq.

For what purpose was that property bought?—Because part of it was connected with that we were obliged to buy, and really because part of it would afford an opportunity of improving the avenues round.

Was the 68,000*l.* granted by Parliament applicable to other purposes besides building the prison?—No, I think not.

Have more buildings or land been purchased than have been applied to the use of the prison?—Certainly; we had the authority of Parliament to raise 95,000*l.* upon the credit of the Orphans Fund, a portion of which, to the amount of 5,000*l.* was to be appropriated to the improvements in Moorfields, and the remainder for the purchase of property stated in the Schedule to the Act, and the expense of building the prison.

Do you recollect what was the proportion of the money applicable to the purchase of property, and what to the building of the prison?—I think about 68,000*l.* was stated as the expense of the erection of the prison, and 22,000*l.* as the expense of the purchases.

What has been the expense of the purchafe already?—I cannot tell; but it has materially exceeded the 22,000*l.*; that is an account I can furnish, if it is necessary.

Is it expected that the site of the present buildings that is to be discontinued for the use of prisons, will produce any considerable sum of money?—The Giltspur-street Compter is to be converted into a house of correction; the old Poultry Compter, that portion of it which was a prison, is provided for by the Act of Parliament, the value of it to be carried to the Orphans Fund.

Do you know how the City mean to raise the surplus money requisite to complete this prison?—I believe their intention is to apply to Parliament for further aid.

How soon will the progress of the building be now stopped for want of money, unless further aid shall be given?—As soon as the works now in hand relative to the Ludgate prison and the Giltspur-street and Compter prisons are finished.

Then the Committee understand you to state, that, with the money now in hand, you have sufficient to finish the three prisons; and that the Newgate part of the new prison will be the prison on account of which further aid will be required?—Yes.

Could those parts of the city prison be occupied separately?—Certainly.

Then the Committee understand you, that at all events the parts of the City prison applicable to the Poultry, Ludgate and Giltspur street Compters, will be fit for habitation before the first of August?—Certainly.

What alteration has taken place in the arrangement of the prison since last year?—The houses fronting Red-Cross-street have been taken down, and the site of ground added to the building, for the purpose of affording a yard for air and exercise for the debtors of the Giltspur-street and Poultry Compters; the part originally appropriated for the Ludgate prisoners has been altered for the reception of women debtors only, with the convenience of a part of the yard behind, before alluded to, and a small portion of the centre yard, which was originally intended to have been made in six divisions; the part intended for Newgate has been altered by the introduction of another staircase, so as to divide the rooms, and reduce the number of persons necessary to be accommodated in one apartment.

What is the largest number of prisoners to be accommodated in one room?—In Newgate there are thirteen beds for males in one room.

How many rooms are there on each floor?—Twelve rooms on each floor, in the part appropriated to the males.

Are there any single rooms?—There are small rooms capable of holding two beds, but no single rooms.

In Giltspur-street and the Poultry Compter how many rooms are there?—Six on each floor; and the greatest number of beds in one room is fifteen.

And small rooms, as in the other part of the prison, holding two beds?—Yes; in Ludgate there are three rooms on each floor, and the largest number of beds in one room is eleven.

In what manner are the women of all the prisons confined?—The women of all the four prisons are to be confined together in that portion of the prison originally intended for the Ludgate debtors.

How many rooms will be in that part?—Four rooms on each floor; the greatest number of beds in any one room is seven.

The

New London Prison,

William Mountague, Esq.

The floors are not fire-proof?—No.

Are the divisions fire-proof?—No.

Would it not very much diminish the danger of fire, if the divisions were made of brick nogging instead of lath and plaster?—The divisions of the rooms are generally by brick walls, and the cases in which our divisions have taken place, by quarter partitions, are so few, that I do not think they add materially to the risk of the building.

Would the manner of laying the floors, which is called pugging, materially diminish the danger of fire?—I do not think it would, unless the floors were to be afterwards paved.

Would that be attended with any great expense?—Yes, it would.

Is there any arrangement in the prison for a turnkey to sleep on the different floors of the prison?—It has always been considered that there was so ample space provided for the debtors that might be expected to be confined in the prison, that there could, without inconvenience on each floor, one of the small rooms be spared for the purpose of a turnkey.

Can you furnish to the Committee a copy of the Plan of the prison?—Yes, I can.

Mr. John Addison Newman was called in, and Examined.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Have you brought with you the visiting Magistrate's book?—Yes.

What alteration has taken place in the management of Newgate, and treatment of the prisoners, since the Committee sat last year?—I believe at the time the Committee sat last year, the separations, as far as the place would afford it, were completed; there has been no further separations; the place is not adapted for it, yet all that the prison was capable of was affected at that time, as to the separation of the prisoners; the allowance of food has become regular to the prisoners; every prisoner has fourteen ounces of bread per day, and two pounds of meat, without bone, in the week, and a sack of coals to each fire-place in the week.

Is that the whole allowance?—Yes.

Are there no vegetables?—No.

How is that distributed?—Individually to every one, by the Turnkeys; one man in each ward takes it for the rest.

How is that man chosen?—On the felons side, appointed by the Keepers; on the debtors side, he is chosen by the prisoners out of three, nominated by the Keepers.

Is the distribution by that prisoner superintended by any officer of the prison?—It is given by the Turnkeys to that prisoner, and he distributes it.

By whose authority is this arrangement made, by your authority, or by that of the Aldermen?—By the Aldermen. Here are a set of regulations which have been formed.

[*The Witness delivered them in, and they were read, as follows:*]

> "DOMVILLE Mayor:——An Especial Court held on the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, (that is to say) Friday the 24th day of June 1814, and in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of George the Third, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, &c.
>
> "THE Committee appointed by this Court on the fourteenth day of June instant, to consider the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof; did this day deliver into this Court, a Report in writing under their hands thereon: Which was read, in these words:
>
> "TO the Right honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.
>
> "In obedience to an order of this Honourable Court of the fourteenth day of June instant, referring it to us among others, to take into consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report our opinion of what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof; we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do certify that we have duly proceeded to consider the same, and are of opinion and do recommend the following Regulations to be immediately adopted:
>
> "That the present Allowances to the several Gaols of this City, excepting

Mr. J. A. Newman.

excepting the Borough Compter, do cease; and that the following Allowances be substituted in lieu thereof:

" Fourteen ounces of bread to be delivered daily.

" Two pounds of meat, without bone, weekly.

" One sack of coals weekly for each fire-place, in the winter; to be reckoned from the first of November to the first of May.

" Half a sack of coals weekly for each fire-place, from the first of May to the first of November.

" That all garnish be abolished.

" That placing the coffin before condemned persons in the chapel at the service, previous to their execution, be discontinued.

" That the keepers do find proper persons to officiate as clerks in the chapels.

" That the Magistrate in rotation sitting at Guildhall, do one day in his week visit the several prisons within this City, and report shortly his observations in a book to be kept at each prison.

" That three of the magistrates on the rota at the Old Bailey (one senior and two junior) do likewise visit the several prisons during the Sessions, and make their observations in the books to be kept for that purpose.

" That the Sheriffs do continue their report to every Court of Aldermen of the state of the prisons.

" That the keepers of the several prisons do report to the Lord Mayor every extraordinary occurrence in their respective prisons, that may happen on the days when the magistrate does not visit, and take his Lordship's order therein.

" That the Reverend Methusalem Davies be allowed a pension of fifty pounds per annum, during his life, upon his resigning the office of Chaplain to the Compters, in consideration of his long and meritorious services.

" All which, nevertheless, we submit to the judgment of this Honourable Court. Dated this twenty-fourth day of June 1814."

" H. C. COMBE,
" JA^{s} SHAW,
" M$_{w}$ WOOD,
" JOHN ATKINS."

" Which Report was well liked and approved of by this Court; and it is ordered, that the Regulations and Allowances therein proposed do forthwith take place.

" WOODTHORPE."

DOMVILLE Mayor:—" Tuesday the fifth day of July 1814, and in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of George the Third, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, &c;—

" THE Committee appointed by this Court on the fourteenth day of June last, to consider the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof; did this day deliver into this Court, a further Report in writing under their hands thereon: which was read, in these words:

" TO the Right honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

" IN further obedience to an order of this Honourable Court, of the sixteenth day of June last, referring it to us among others, to take into consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report our opinion of what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof;—we do certify, that in addition to the several Allowances and Regulations recommended in our Report presented on the 24th day of June last, we are of opinion the following should be adopted:

" That bedding which, upon future consideration, should be found most fitting, should be provided at the expense of this city

"That mops, pails, and brooms should be provided for the several prisons of this city, under the direction of the Magistrates, whose rotation it shall be to visit the same, as recommended in our Report of the twenty-fourth of June last.

"That such debtors who receive sixpence per day each from the plaintiffs be not entitled to receive an allowance of meat.

"That such prisoners as are discharged by the several magistrates do not pay any fees upon such discharge.

"That every person committed to any of the prisons of this city, be examined by the surgeon previous to his being permitted to mingle with the other prisoners.

"That the surgeons of the respective prisons be enjoined daily to write in a book at each prison the state of its health and cleanliness.

"That it be recommended to the Sheriffs and their Under Sheriffs alternately to attend Divine Service at the several prisons every Sunday.

"That proper pews be made in the chapels of the several prisons, for the Keepers.

"That the Keepers, in rotation, with their principal Assistants, do constantly attend Divine Service.

"That in addition to the duties prescribed by the Ordinary of Newgate, at his appointment in June 1799, he do visit the sick, instruct the prisoners in their moral duties, and administer religious consolation to all that desire it, or may stand in need of it.

"That the sale of beer and tobacco be prohibited being made by the Turnkeys, or any servant of the Keepers; and that no Turnkey or servant of the Keeper be interested, directly or indirectly, in the sale of those articles.

"That the Lord Mayor's and Sheriffs' allowances of meat be still continued; and when the same shall not be sufficient to allow each prisoner two pounds per week, that the allowances of meat agreed to by the Court of Aldermen do take place, to make up the same to that quantity.

"That it is not fit for the Keeper of the Borough Compter to be an officer of the Court of Requests in Southwark, but that the office should be filled by a person unconnected with the said Court, and paid by a competent salary out of the profits of the office of High Bailiff of the borough of Southwark.

"That the Chaplain of the Compters do perform Divine Service at the Borough Compter once every Sunday.

"That the garnish of two shillings and sixpence, paid to the Keeper of the said Compter, be abolished.

"That the present door to the women's yard there be closed, and an access made to a small yard by which two court-yards will be afforded, to separate the men from the women.

"That we, your Committee, were proceeding in the consideration of the evidence given by the Reverend Doctor Forde before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, and having required his attendance thereon, it was represented to us to be the wish of Doctor Forde to resign his situation of Ordinary of Newgate; we therefore beg leave to submit, in the event of that resignation being made to the first Court of Aldermen, that the same be accepted, and that an annual allowance be made to him during the remainder of his life, on account of his great age and infirmities: All which we submit to the judgment of this Honourable Court. Dated this 5th day of July 1814.

"H. C. Combe,
"Ja^s Shaw,
"M^w Wood,
"Robert Alb. Cox."

"Which Report was well liked and approved of by this Court; and it is ordered that the Regulations therein proposed, do forthwith take place.

"Ordered, That the said Report, together with the Report presented to this Court on the 24th day of June last, be printed, and a copy thereof sent to every Member, the Recorder, Sheriffs, Common Serjeant, the Under

Newgate Prison.

Mr. *J. A. Newman.*

Under Sheriffs, the Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, and to the Keepers, Chaplains, and Surgeons of the respective prisons of this city.

"WOODTHORPE."

"DOMVILLE Mayor.—An especial Court, held Friday the 29th day of July 1814, and in the 54th year of the reign of GEORGE the Third, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, &c.

"The Committee appointed by this Court on the 14th day of June last, to consider the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof; did this day deliver into this Court, a further Report in writing under their hands thereon: which was read, in these words:

"TO the Right honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

"In further obedience to an order of this Honourable Court, of the fourteenth day of June last, referring it to us among others, to take into consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, relative to the Gaols of this City, and to report our opinion of what Regulations are necessary to be made in respect thereof;—we do certify, that we proceeded in the consideration thereof, and having inspected the Plan of the Gaol of Newgate, we are of opinion, and do recommend to this Honourable Court, to appoint a Sub-committee of not less than three Aldermen, to be accompanied by Mr. Town Clerk, by Mr. Dance the Clerk of the Works, and Mr. John Addison Newman, the Keeper of Newgate, who should be requested to visit the Gaol of Gloucester, which is represented to this Committee to be planned and conducted upon the most improved principles; and such other gaols as they may deem expedient. To make drafts of such sub-division of chambers as may be best suited for Newgate, for a Criminal Prison, for the Red Cross-street Gaol, as a Debtors Prison, and for the Giltspur-street Compter as a House of Correction; and to compare the Allowances and the Rules and Orders now existing in the City prisons, with those of Gloucester and elsewhere; from which they will draw out such new system of allowances, and such new code of laws as shall appear to them to be salutary, and adapted to the three prisons in question, as likewise to the Borough Gaol; and to report generally upon the same, with all convenient dispatch, to this Court.

"That having inspected the books kept at the several prisons, for the visiting Magistrates to make their remarks, pursuant to our former recommendation, we directed Mr. Newman, the Keeper of Newgate, assisted by this City's Solicitor, to prepare and frame a list of standing interrogatories to be made by the visiting Magistrates; which, we are of opinion, should be regularly made and signed by the said Magistrates: and they having accordingly prepared the same, we approved thereof, and have caused a copy to be hereunto annexed, for the information of this Honourable Court.

"That we have been attended by Sir Watkin Lewes, High Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark; and the orders of this Court, in respect to the Keeper of the Borough Gaol, being read to him, he assured us that the wishes of the Court should be attended to by him forthwith.

"All which we submit to this Honourable Court. Dated this 29th day of July 1814.

"W. CURTIS,
"JAˢ SHAW,
"SAMˡ GOODBEHERE."

"Which Report was well liked and approved of by this Court; and it is ordered that the recommendations therein contained be duly observed.

"WOODTHORPE."

"QUESTIONS proposed to be put by the Visiting Magistrates at the Gaol of Newgate, and approved by the Committee the 29th of July 1814.

"1. Has Divine Service been performed, with a Sermon on Sunday, and Prayers on Wednesday and Friday, assisted by a Lay Clerk?

"2. Has

Newgate Prison.

Mr. *J. A. Newman.*

"2. Has the Ordinary had communication with the capital convicts, or other prisoners, since the last visitation?

"3. Has the Sacrament been administered in the chapel, and when?

"4. Have the sick prisoners desired and received spiritual advice and assistance since the last visitation?

"5. Have the dust-binns been regularly emptied?

"6. Have any of the prisoners been punished for disobedience to the Rulers of the prison, and for what offences?

"7. Have the rooms and stairs been regularly swept and washed; and if not, by whose default has the same been neglected?

"8. Has any person been apprehended for attempting to bring spirituous liquors into the gaol since the last visitation?

"9. When was the Report of the capital convicts last made?

"10. Have the prisoners under sentence of transportation been removed since the last Session; and if not, what has occasioned the delay?

"11. Who has the care of the mops, brooms and brushes provided by the city, and is the quantity sufficient?

"12. Has the bread, meat and coals, provided by order of the Court of Aldermen, been regularly delivered and properly distributed, and has the bread and meat been good and wholesome?

"13. Did either of the Sheriffs or Under Sheriffs attend Divine Service in the Chapel on Sunday last?

"14. Do any of the prisoners who receive the allowance of bread, meat and coals, continue in the exaction of garnish, ward dues, or subscription, upon the entrance of any prisoner; and in which room or ward has such exaction been made since the last visitation?

"15. What repairs or necessary amendments are requisite for the security of the prison or accommodation of the prisoners?

"16. Have any of the prisoners any complaint to lay before the visiting Magistrate?

"The Keeper to produce to the visiting Magistrate the Surgeon's book, concerning the state of health, and cleanliness of the prisoners."

How often do the magistrates visit the prison?—Very frequently.

Weekly?—Daily sometimes; sometimes there has been the lapse of a week, and I believe once there was the lapse of ten days, but generally speaking, they come oftener than once a week.

Do you accompany them round the prison?—Sometimes, not always.

Are they accustomed to examine every part of the prison?—At times they go into every room; at other times they only take a room or two, as they think fit, in each yard indiscriminately; sometimes they call the prisoners down from their rooms, and examine them when they are in a hurry, and pass on; to go through every room in the place takes four hours, and they cannot always spare the time.

Is the whole of the prison generally examined once a week?—Generally about once a week.

Is there any order from the Court of Aldermen against the taking of garnish?—Yes.

In the Report signed by Mr. Wood yesterday, a complaint was made to him, that the practice of taking 10 *s.* 6 *d.* from each debtor, on his entrance into the prison, still continues?—Yes, they have been threatened continually, that the allowance shall be taken from them, if they continue to do it; but they do it under other names; the Court have made the allowance to the common side prisoners, of coals and meat, upon the condition they should discontinue garnish.

The garnish of 10 *s.* 6 *d.* is the same as what existed last year?—I believe it is.

It is taken for coals and candles, &c. mops and brooms?—They say so; but they have mops and brooms whenever they ask for them; coals is a regular allowance now.

Is the allowance of coals sufficient?—They think sometimes it is not sufficient.

Then you suppose this garnish is applied to that which they conceive to be deficient?—They call it subscriptions; that when a man comes in, he pays a subscription

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

subscription to the rest; if he stays any time, he may receive back more than his subscription; but if he should go out immediately, the subscription would then be lost, that is, on the debtors side; on the felons side, the garnish is done with.

What object is this garnish applied to?—To the common purposes of the prison, for their own comforts among themselves, finding firewood and candles.

Do you consider it a voluntary payment?—The assertion is, that it is voluntary.

Have you had any complaints within this year past of persons receiving ill treatment in consequence of the garnish not being paid?—Yes, there was one man of the name of Ward, who complained that he was so ill-treated.

Did he complain to the Magistrates?—Yes; it appears in the books that he made several complaints.

What was done?—They found out that his complaints were generally frivolous.

Do you remember any other instance?—No; I do not remember any other till the one of yesterday; the man yesterday said, he did not complain for himself, but for the benefit of others.

Who is the clergyman appointed to Newgate?—The Rev. H. S. Cotton.

The service is performed regularly every Sunday?—Every Sunday twice; a sermon in the morning, and prayers in the afternoon.

Do you attend the service?—Sometimes.

Generally?—Perhaps once in two or three times.

Do the Turnkeys regularly attend?—Yes.

Is the attendance at chapel, on the part of the prisoners, much more regular and constant than it was heretofore?—Yes, generally it is; their behaviour is remarkably good, but they do not attend in very great numbers.

Does Mr. Cotton visit the prison often in the week days?—Yes, he is very much there.

When he visits the prison, does he go into the different wards of the prison?—Sometimes; or has them called out very frequently; sometimes he goes into the wards.

Do you give him a list of the persons in the prison, so that he is able to know whether there are any young persons in the prison?—No; we do not give him a list, but we let him see them, and if they are of an age fit for his school, he selects them and puts them into the school.

How often does he do that?—Whenever young persons come in.

Can it happen that a young person of seventeen, eighteen, or nineteen years of age, should be for a week in the prison without the clergyman having had any communication with him?—It is possible where a person is of that age; the children that are fit for the school he selects immediately.

Do you believe he has communication with persons above the age that you have described as fit for the school?—I am not able to answer that; he is continually in one part of the prison or another; and he is now engaged in endeavouring to get the desks enlarged, which were made to hold the bibles, that they may hold other religious books, as well as bibles.

What religious books do you mean; prayer books?—Yes, and homilies and tracts, and such things.

When the Committee visited the prison the other day, they found a person among the convicts, a boy of the age of fifteen or sixteen, who had not been tried, and who had lately come from Clerkenwell Prison?—Yes; I recollect the Chairman of this Committee speaking to a person of that sort.

Do you recollect his name?—John Dewe.

He was placed amongst the convicts?—He was placed in the yard where the convicts were, from the peculiar pressure of the Sessions; there were more came for trial than the place would hold, and therefore they were put into the lower ward; we filled the yard with persons for trial first, and the persons removed from the New Prison, came a great many together, and the other yard being full, I was obliged to put them in the convicts yard; there were altogether about 250 for trial this Sessions.

Do you know whether the Clergyman had seen this prisoner?—No; I cannot say that I do.

How long had he been in prison?—About a fortnight.

Is there any rule or regulation against drunkenness, on the criminal side of te prison?—Yes.

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By whose authority made?—By the keeper's.

To what part of the prison does that apply?—To all parts of the prison; we punish them every where for drunkenness, by shutting out their friends.

Is there any rule, by which an individual who is drunk shall suffer more than all those confined with him in the same yard?—Not unless his drunkenness is followed by disorderly behaviour.

Have any rules and regulations for the criminal side of the prison been made since the Committee sat last year?—I was ordered to draw up a set of rules.

Have you so done?—Yes; it is before the Committee of Aldermen, who are engaged in making a report upon that and other matters; the report was to have been produced at the last Court of Aldermen.

May a felon still be admitted into the master's-side of Newgate, provided he is able to pay his half-crown a week?—Yes.

May he still be admitted into the state-side?—Yes.

Upon what does the continuance of any of the prisoners on the master's-side or the state-side depend?—On paying their rent for their lodging, and promising to observe the same separation as would have been caused by the walls, if they had been in the common prison; if any person committed for a misdemeanor was to complain that a felon had spoken to him, that felon would be removed from the state-side immediately.

Then the rule is, that they are so to conduct themselves as to preserve separation, though there is no physical separation existing?—Yes; but the separation is physical at night, because they are locked into their separate rooms.

If any man so misconducted himself, in your opinion, as to make it necessary he should be removed from the master's-side or state-side back to the common yard, is that punishment one of those that would be entered in a book?—I should enter it in the book of occurrences, but not in the visiting Magistrate's book; there is an occurrence-book on the felons side, and one on the debtors, they are but indifferently kept at present, for we have not been able to get the system quite complete for want of the rules.

Are prisoners still permitted to have as many quarts of beer individually, or as many bottles of wine successively, in a day, as they may think fit?—Provided they have but one quart at a time, there is no rule yet to prevent it.

What directions have you received since the Committee of last year, in respect of furnishing bedding or clothing to prisoners?—I have only a continuation of the orders I always had, that was, to clothe them wherever it was necessary, on an Alderman's giving an order, but no bedding is given beyond the rugs.

When the Committee were on the debtors side of Newgate, on the 11th of April, they were told by the female debtors that they had not seen any Alderman to make a complaint to, for a fortnight or three weeks preceding; can you state the last time when any of the Aldermen went in to visit that ward?—Mr. Alderman Scholey went in on the 25th of March; I went with him all round; and on the 10th of April into every yard, and into some of the rooms, but not into all of them.

Did you go into the room of the female debtors on that day?—No.

Did you go into the rooms of the convicts on the state-side?—I do not know that they did go into the state-side at all.

Is it possible for the Aldermen, in the way they now visit the prison, to go into all the rooms?—Not in one day, without a great deal of difficulty; to go into all the rooms in one day takes four hours.

Can you state the rotation of visiting, by which the Aldermen now visit the prison?—The sitting Alderman at Guildhall is reckoned the visiting Magistrate, and he is changed every week at every session; the Magistrates at the sessions appoint somebody who shall be a Committee till the next session, to manage the gaols.

Then the gaol is examined by that Committee occasionally, and also by the sitting Alderman of the week?—Yes.

Does the sitting Alderman of the week come generally more than once in the week?—Yes; sometimes.

Sometimes the sitting Alderman does not come at all in his week?—No; but somebody comes for him.

Can he commonly, in one visit, go round the whole prison?—Sometimes it is done; but it cannot be always.

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Suppose he does not go round the whole at one visit, does he go round the remainder at his next visit?—Not always.

According to the manner in which the prison is now visited, does it always happen that every part of the prison is visited within the week?—No; I cannot say that.

What security is there then that every part of the prison shall be visited as often as once a fortnight, or once in three weeks?—I do not know what security there is for it.

Is it in point of fact done?—Yes, oftener than once in three weeks; it depends on circumstances entirely; sometimes it is oftener, and sometimes not.

It is not regular?—No; there are no regular days.

Does it happen that the prison may sometimes be ten days without being visited by any Magistrate officially?—That has happened.

Has that happened often?—No, I believe only once.

Do the prisoners know when a Magistrate visits, that the person visiting is an Alderman?—Not always, unless he tells them himself.

When he comes into the room, is it customary to say, Have you any complaints?—Some of the Magistrates do, and some do not; they do it at one time, perhaps, and not at another.

Are many complaints made to them in general?—No, very seldom; when there are any they will wait till the Alderman is gone, and make them to me.

Have they much conversation with the prisoners?—Yes, at times; when I see a prisoner inclined to talk with the Magistrates, I always go away, to leave them to talk by themselves; it very often occurs that they apply to the Sheriffs as well as the Aldermen; they act as Magistrates as well as the sitting Aldermen.

The prison is extremely crowded at present?—It is; it is getting better now than it was; there are 164 men and 14 women debtors; there are 264 men and 95 women criminals, making a total of 534; there are 40 less than when the Committee saw them; there were about 40 discharged this morning by proclamation.

Is the practice of paying garnish as common as ever it was?—Among the debtors it is difficult to restrain it; among the debtors it is done, but not in the other parts of the prison.

They call it by another name?—Yes; they call it subscription.

When the Committee visited the prison, they found three persons in irons who had been convicted of felony, and whose term of imprisonment had expired, but who were kept in prison with their irons on, because they had not paid their fees: is it customary to keep the irons on persons in that situation?—Yes; the irons are not removed till the person goes out of prison; two or three days is the utmost that any person remains after his time is out.

Are those persons at present discharged?—Yes.

Did they pay their fees?—No.

Were they able to pay them?—I think they were not.

Giltspur-street Compter.

Mr. John Teague.

Mr. John Teague was called in, and Examined.

What situation do you hold?—Keeper of the Giltspur-street Compter.

What books are those in your hand?—The visiting Magistrate's books.

> [The witness produced the visiting Magistrate's books of the Giltspur-street and Poultry Compter, dated 30th June 1814; and the visiting Magistrate's books of the Ludgate prison, dated 30th June 1814.]

How often do the Magistrates come to you?—Generally once a week, sometimes oftener; the visiting Magistrate is required to come once a week.

When he comes, does he go round every part of the prison?—He generally goes round every part of the prison.

Do you make reports to him of the state of the prison?—He inquires among the prisoners whether they have any complaints to make, and I report to him, if it is necessary.

Do you report any punishment you may have inflicted since the last visit?—I should have reported if I had inflicted any.

Do

Giltspur-street. Compter.

Mr. John Teague.

Do you keep an account of the punishments inflicted?—I have never inflicted any.

Do you keep any occurrence-book?—No, only the visiting Magistrate's book.

Will you state what alterations have been made in your prison, in the food of the prisoners under your care, since the Committee met last year?—The allowance of bread is increased from ten ounces to fourteen, delivered daily to each prisoner; and two pounds of meat without bone delivered weekly to each prisoner; a sack of coals per week to each fire-place in the winter-time, and half a sack in the summer-time.

Has any alteration taken place in the allowance of bedding to the prisoners?—None.

It appears by the report of the Committee of last year that persons committed for common assaults, and on the charge of bastardy, were confined in the same room as men charged with felony; is that now the case?—It is at present, and must be till the debtors are removed, then we shall have an opportunity of altering it.

Are persons of those descriptions locked up in the same cell at night?—Yes, they are.

How many persons have you had in any one cell some time past?—Two, and sometimes three, just before the sessions.

It appears by a Report of the Committee last year, that beer and tobacco were sold by the Turnkeys, acting as Agents for the Publicans, and receiving a remuneration for the quantity they sold; is that now the case?—No, a woman is appointed to sell the beer.

Who is the Chaplain?—The Reverend Manley Wood.

Where does Mr. Wood reside?—At Tottenham.

How far is that from the prison?—About four miles.

What other duty has he, besides the spiritual care of your prison?—I know of no other duty as a clergymen, except the Borough Compter.

Has he not the care of Ludgate?—No, Dr. Rose has Ludgate.

Does he keep an academy for young gentlemen?—I believe he has two pupils; I have heard him say he has two pupils, and not more.

How often does he attend the prison?—Every Sunday, and sometimes he has called in the week days; but the duty is only required to be done on Sunday morning.

You do not make any memorandum of his visits in the week days?—No.

He is not called on to see the prisoners, except on Sundays?—No.

Does he on Sundays confer with the prisoners individually, as well as perform the duty in the chapel?—No, he does not; he has not been required so to do by any of them.

Have you any new rules since the Committee sat last year?—Those orders of the Court of Aldermen relative to the allowances.

No rules as to the internal management of the prison?—No.

It appears, by the rules of this prison, if a person on the Master's side gets drunk, or swears, or strikes a person, the Master is at liberty to remove him to the common side of the prison; is there any punishment for a person guilty of those practices on the common side of the prison?—That he shall be deprived of his allowance of bread, as appears by the rules.

If you should find it necessary to inflict that punishment, have you any journal in which you make an entry upon that subject?—No, I have not.

Is it an offence for which you have often punished persons?—No, I have seldom punished them; an admonition has had the desired effect.

Do you consider the debtors in your prison, as more disorderly at present than heretofore?—In general they are worse to manage than the felons; but I cannot say they are more so now than heretofore.

Is a prisoner in your prison, allowed to have as many quarts of beer in a day as he pleases, provided he has not more than one quart in his possession at a time?—Yes; the rule says he shall have only one quart in his possession at a time, but it does not say how often it is to be repeated; but if he gets drunk, he is liable to be punished for it.

In point of fact, do prisoners often get drunk?—They do, frequently.

Do they get punished for it?—No, they do not.

You do not punish them unless they are riotous?—No, we do not punish them unless they are riotous.

Giltspur-street Compter.

Mr. John Teague.

Is your prison uncommonly full now?—Very full; the chapel is now occupied by some of the Debtors to sleep in.

How many sleep there?—About sixteen.

Have you many criminal prisoners?—We have none now; we always remove them six days previous to the sessions.

What number of debtors have you in the prison?—I have about fifty-two in the Giltspur-street Compter, and about the same number in the Poultry Compter.

It appears by these Rules, that the Chaplain is to administer the Sacrament four times in a year, is that ever done?—It is not.

By the Rules, the fires and candles in the prison are to be put out before eleven o'clock, is that rule constantly observed?—No, unless they sit up late and are disorderly, then we enforce it.

There is a rule that the prisoners shall attend Divine Service every Sunday, is that rule observed?—The rule is to deprive them of their allowance of beef, unless they attend; that is the rule in Giltspur-street Compter.

Do you often find it necessary to inflict that punishment, or do they attend regularly?—They attend very regularly; every one is bound to attend, unless the Surgeon certifies that he is not able to attend.

Do they conduct themselves decorously during the service?—Very much so.

Is the allowance of coals sufficient for the debtors?—I think so; they burn more, but they are very extravagant; if they were allowed more, they would consume them.

They make no complaints?—No.

Is the garnish abolished?—It is effectually abolished.

You have no complaints of its still being demanded?—No.

And do not believe it exists?—I had some conversation with a committee of debtors a short time ago, who expressed a wish that their steward should collect garnish by way of subscription, but he had positively refused so to do.

Ludgate Prison.

You are the Keeper of Ludgate?—Yes.

Have you had any alterations in the rules there?—The same alterations with regard to the allowances of bread, meat and coals.

But no alterations as to the discipline and general management of the prison?—No.

Do the visiting magistrates visit that prison regularly?—They do.

There is a rule that no disorderly woman or common prostitute should be permitted to visit any prisoner in the house whatever; is there any means to enforce such a rule?—If such a person intruded herself, we should have notice of it, and should turn her out.

In point of fact, do you believe that women often do sleep in Ludgate with the prisoners?—Some of the debtors are allowed to have their wives there; it is generally understood they are entitled to it; the debtors there, are freemen of London, and we pay every possible respect to them; many of them have been respectable people, and if we can show them any indulgence, we do.

How many persons sleep in a room?—Two; and sometimes only one.

Is it common for a woman to be sleeping in a room where other men sleep besides her husband?—No.

What is the greatest number of persons who sleep in any of the Giltspur-street wards?—Sixteen.

Do any women sleep in the Giltspur-street Compter?—No.

Do the Magistrates visit every room in the Ludgate Prison?—Yes.

When a woman has a mind to come and stay with her husband at Ludgate, is any special application made for that purpose, or does she come of course?—It is generally understood among the debtors and the steward, and if she was suspected not to be his wife, it would be prohibited.

Is any regular permission given, or does she come in of course?—Yes, subject to be turned out, if it should appear to be an improper thing, or the number of prisoners was so great it could not be allowed.

But she would come in of course?—Yes.

And she would be turned out, if she and her husband could not have a separate room, or she appeared not to be his wife?—Yes.

Who is the Chaplain of the prison?—Doctor Rose.

Ludgate Prison.

Mr. *John Teague.*

It appears by the Report of the Committee of the House of Commons of last year, that Doctor Rose complained much of the want of a private room in which he might converse with the prisoners; has he since obtained that accommodation?—No, he has not; he has only the chapel for that purpose.

Is there any regular Clerk appointed to the chapel of Ludgate?—No; it is a rule of the prison that one of the prisoners shall perform that duty.

Has he any allowance for performing it?—Yes, he has, out of the donations.

Is the Sacrament ever administered there?—No, it is not.

Do the prisoners attend chapel very regularly?—Yes.

Do you know why the Sacrament is not administered?—I suppose, for no other reason than that it has not been required to be administered.

How many prisoners have you in Ludgate Prison at the present time?—Twenty-four.

Do you attend constantly the service at Ludgate?—I am required to attend in turn, and which I do.

When you do not attend at Giltspur-street, then you attend at Ludgate?—Yes, we are required to take it in turn with our principal assistants.

When your prison is full at Ludgate, prisoners frequently sleep in the chapel?—They do.

It appears by Doctor Rose's evidence, given before the Committee last year, that when he has called on the week-days to consult with the prisoners, he has often not been able to get into the chapel; in that case, what place is there in which he can communicate with the prisoners?—In one of the prisoners rooms.

Has he any convenience for communicating with the prisoners beyond what he had when he was examined before the Committee last year?—None.

Poultry Compter.

Mr. *Edward Kirby* was called in, and Examined.

Mr. *Edward Kirby.*

State any alterations which have taken place in the management of the Poultry Compter, or the treatment of the prisoners, since the Committee of the House of Commons sat last year?—They have an extra allowance of bread; each prisoner had formerly but ten ounces of bread, he has now fourteen; every debtor who goes to chapel is entitled to two pounds of meat a week, and if the Sheriff's allowance is not sufficient to give them each that, we have an order to send to the butchers to make up the deficiency, so that every man has two pounds.

Have you any rules and regulations for the management of your prison?—No; there have been no rules and regulations for the Poultry Compter yet; there never were any since I have been the Keeper; I have generally acted upon the rules for Giltspur-street.

By the rules of that Compter, the Keeper is at liberty to inflict certain punishments; do you conceive that you can inflict those punishments without some particular sanction?—I have never been driven to any great extremity yet; but provided I was, and I thought the Giltspur-street rules were not sufficient to govern me, I should consider I had nothing to govern me, and do the best I could.

By the rules of the Guiltspur-street Compter, a prisoner is deprived of his meat, in case of drunkenness, swearing, gambling, or disorderly conduct; are you under that Regulation?—I conceive so.

Have you ever acted on that rule?—No, I never had any occasion.

In point of fact, prisoners do sometimes get drunk in your prison, and swear and gamble?—They are disorderly at times, but we are generally pretty quiet.

Do they refuse to go to chapel?—No.

They all attend chapel, do they?—No.

Supposing they do not go to chapel, do you deprive them of their allowance?—The debtors have no beef if they do not go to chapel.

If a debtor does not go to chapel, do you feel yourself authorized to deprive him of the allowance of meat?—That is the custom; they have no meat without they attend chapel.

Have you any hour at which you put out fire and candles?—Half-past-ten; we lock up at ten.

Do they put out their candles then?—I do not know that they do; we leave the debtors then with a light.

Poultry Compter.

Mr. Edward Kirby.

How often is your prison visited?—Generally once a week.

Does the visiting Magistrate examine every part of the prison?—Yes; whenever I have attended, he has gone through every part; I cannot always attend upon the visiting Magistrate, my duty being to attend the Lord Mayor; the Gentlemen who generally visits is the Magistrate who attends at Guildhall, and perhaps he leaves Guildhall before I can get back from the Lord Mayor.

Does he state to the prisoners that he is the visiting Magistrate, and enquire whether there are any complaints to be made?—Yes.

When you say that he examines every part of the prison, do you mean to say that he goes into every room, or merely into each ward?—Every ward: we have chiefly wards in our prison; we have very few small rooms.

And he does go through all the wards?—Yes.

Does garnish exist now?—Not that I know of.

You believe there is no such thing exacted?—I do.

What quantity of wine and beer do you allow prisoners in your prison?—We consider that they must not have more than one quart at a time.

Supposing he chuses to have several quarts in a day, do you prevent it?—If we were aware of a man's getting more beer than he should properly have, we should prevent it.

What quantity would you consider as more than he should properly have?—If a man had a quart a day, I think it would be quite sufficient for him.

In point of fact, does not the same prisoner frequently send for more than one quart in a day?—I dare say he does, but it is impossible to know that.

Is drunkenness frequent in the prison?—No; I think our people are remarkably orderly with respect to that.

Do you attend Divine Service every Sunday?—No, not every Sunday; I take it in turn with Mr. Teague and the two principal Turnkeys; it comes to my turn about once a month.

Is that by any rule of the prison, or by an agreement between yourselves?—We received an order from the Magistrates, that we should attend Divine Service, and we settled amongst ourselves what we should do; we have occasionally attended together; we have only one chapel.

Do the Turnkeys regularly attend?—Yes, every Sunday.

The Turnkeys of both prisons?—Yes.

Have you found any difficulty in abolishing garnish?—No, not with the present allowance of coals; the allowance is so liberal now, that they are able to share their donation money, which they were before obliged to lay out for things they wanted.

The allowance is now so liberal, that that voluntary contribution among the prisoners, under the name of garnish, is no longer necessary for the supply of the prisoners with necessaries in the prison?—No.

How often does the medical gentleman visit your prison?—Every day.

Is any memorandum made of his visits?—He has a book.

Is that open to the inspection of the Magistrates?—It lies in the office; if they enquire for it, they see it.

Lunæ, 17° *die Aprilis*, 1815.

At the House of Commons:

The Honourable Henry Grey Bennet, in the Chair.

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

The Reverend *Horace Salusbury Cotton* was called in, and Examined.

YOU are Ordinary of Newgate?—I am.

Have you any written instructions for your duty?—I have them not in my possession yet; I had some instructions read to me in the Court of Aldermen when I was appointed; but I have neither my instructions nor instrument of appointment sent me yet.

How long ago were you appointed?—The 29th of July last; the Town Clerk has promised to send them two or three times, but there has been delay.

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

In some Resolutions of the Court of Aldermen that have been given in to the Committee, it is stated, that in addition to the duties prescribed to the Ordinary of Newgate at his appointment in June 1799, he do visit the sick, instruct the prisoners in their moral duties, and administer religious consolation to all that desire it, or that may stand in need of it; have you obeyed those instructions since you received them?—Yes; I do not know that I particularly received those, but I have acted in that community precisely the same, generally speaking, as I should do in a parish; I had that principally as my guide, except as the necessity of prisoners demanded other conduct.

Service is performed twice every Sunday?—Yes.

How often do you attend on week days?—I am there almost every day, unless something particular prevents my going every day, and sometimes two or three times a day.

Have you any journal of the prison?—No.

In the occurrence book, your name appears as attending nearly every day?—I was not aware of that, but such is the fact; the day the Committee was there, I was attending at the Sessions House.

You have some boys in the school at Newgate?—Yes, I have collected all the boys that I thought the gentleman I put over them could manage, and have put them to school.

What number are there in that situation?—There are now only nine; I have had about forty-seven; this is a list of the names and ages, and what has been done with them, (*Producing it.*)

What is the greatest number you have had at any one time?—I do not exactly recollect whether it was 20 or 21.

What are the school-hours?—From nine till twelve, and from two till four, or till the dusk comes on; the master never leaves them, he is with them night and day.

He sleeps in the same room with them?—Yes.

Where are they out of school-hours?—They are either in that room or the staircase; we have no yard for them; and I do not allow them to go among the other prisoners.

Do you allow them to go to the top of the roof?—No; Mr. Newman objected to it, inasmuch as it might not be safe; that they would see the internal part of the prison, and so on.

How do those boys come under your observation, when they come into Newgate?—The Turnkeys generally tell me.

Do they give you a list, on the arrival of a person under 20, telling you his name as soon as he comes in?—Fifteen is the age; I do not attempt them, unless I see they are weak or meek boys, above the age of fifteen, because I think they are above my hand; many of them have been to sea, and would not submit to the regulations of a school under fifteen or sixteen; they usually tell me if any come in.

What means have you of communicating with persons who come into the prison above fifteen or sixteen?—Only by going through the yards or wards; I have no personal communication with them, unless they send for me.

You do not feel it your duty to attend to persons above the age of fifteen, more than to persons above the age of twenty?—No.

When the Committee visited the prison the other day, they found a boy there, who stated his age to be fifteen, and who had not been tried, who was placed amongst the convicts; Mr. Newman has explained, that he was so placed in consequence of the crowded state of the prison, he having come in amongst the last, and there being no room elsewhere; his name was John Dewe, have you seen him?—I have seen him, but he does not come under my description of boy. I believe he is eighteen or nineteen, if we mean the same person, as I presume we do; I think he has been at work in Plymouth Dock Yard, and that he has been to sea, and he would be much too big for my school; if it is the same, he was represented to me to be a very bad boy, and to swear very shockingly; as it is a thing of my own originating, I conceive it lays with me to take those that I think I could do any good with, and not those that would corrupt the others.

He has been in the prison about twelve days, or a fortnight?—I think he has been thereabouts; I saw three boys come into chapel one day with the men; I desired the Turnkeys immediately to stop those boys after service was over; I frequently

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

frequently do this, and sometimes, that is, the first time I know those boys are in the prison, the turnkeys do not always tell me, and then I examined those three boys, and selected one to go into the school; the name of the one I did select out of the three was Michael Brown; I do not recollect the names of the other two, as I did not take them.

Do you not think it would be a considerable convenience to you, in enabling you to select those boys, if the Magistrates were to direct, that as soon as they came into the prison the first visit you paid, the fact of their being in the prison should be communicated to you by the Turnkeys?—Yes, I think it would, and it is their general practice; they generally do it.

With the exception of the boys, you have very little knowledge of any individual character in the prison?—Not unless they are particularly pressed upon my notice by some circumstance or other.

Would it not be desirable that the names of all the prisoners, with their ages and other description, should be delivered to you by the Turnkey the day after their arrival?—It certainly would be useful for me to have such a return for my information as to the prisoners, whether they are for a first offence, or whether they are old offenders, and so on; I am obliged to hunt out that now.

It is not of course that these facts are communicated to you?—No, it is not.

Is the attendance in chapel regular?—Yes.

Do most of the persons confined on criminal charges attend?—I ought to premise to the Committee, that it is entirely optional; I found it so, when I went there, and I so much approved of the principle that I have left it entirely optional, and I am happy to see that the chapel is generally full week-days and Sundays.

Do the persons that are cast for death regularly attend?—They are obliged to attend, unless they are ill, or are of another persuasion; I never press it in such a case.

Amongst the persons at present cast for death in the prison of Newgate, did they all attend chapel yesterday?—With the exception of one or two in the infirmary.

Does Mr. Newman constantly attend chapel?—He takes his turn with the Turnkeys; there are four or five Turnkeys, and they each take it in turn.

By the resolutions of the City of London, it appears that a pew has been ordered to be made for the Keeper of Newgate; has that been done?—I am not aware of such a thing, the Keeper when he attends and chuses to shew himself, for he sometimes attends when I do not see him, sits in the high pew, the Sheriffs pew; he comes in and goes out when his business requires; I am not aware that there is any pew for the Keeper *eo nomine*, but he generally sits in the Sheriffs pew.

There is a Clerk appointed?—There is a Clerk from out of doors constantly attends; I do not know whether there is any appointment or not.

Is the Sacrament often administered?—I have not been there quite a year, but my object is to administer it four times every year, the same as I would do in any parish church; it was administered last on Easter-day, and the time before that on the first Sunday in the new year.

How many communicated on Easter-day?—Only one prisoner.

Was that person under sentence of death?—He was.

Were there many at that time under sentence?—Yes; there were seven or eight other Persons who communicated besides this one prisoner.

Are there many girls in Newgate at this moment under the age of fifteen?—I think there may be three or four, but I do not pledge myself that there are so many.

Do you not think, having found great benefit of a school for boys, an equal benefit might be gained to the girls who are under the same age, by establishing a school for them?—There can be no hesitation in saying yes to that question; but then perhaps I should qualify it.

Do you think it possible to establish a school for them?—There is not the same facility in doing that; a woman must be set over them; and they must be kept separate; and the question is, who would be that woman we could entrust, and how could I overlook that woman in the way I am enabled to overlook the master of the boys school; but generally speaking, there are not nearly so many girls as there are boys, generally not above three or four who can be called little girls.

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

The contagion of Newgate, in the state in which the women's side is, must be fatal to the morals of a girl?—It is shocking indeed.

Have you been called in to administer spiritual consolation to any of the women?—Yes, frequently.

Is it as frequent among that class as among the men?—More so, I think.

In what place do you communicate with them?—I take them up to the Infirmary, and if it is any thing they want particularly private to communicate, I take them into Mrs. Foster's room, which is an inner room, or I call them down into a lodge, known by the name of Akerman's lodge, to communicate with them; and sometimes I have had the women into the chapel by themselves.

Do you keep any list of persons with whom you have communicated in that way, and whom you think of better character than the other class of persons in the prison?—No, I have no list; I know those that are of better character so well, that a list is unnecessary.

Are they numerous among the women?—I am sorry to say they are not.

Are complaints ever made to you, by those persons who are not so abandoned and depraved as the ordinary class of persons confined there; of the pain they feel in being so placed?—Yes, of being shocked at it; and I have sometimes interceded to get those women separated from the rest and put up into the Infirmary, that their minds might not be poisoned.

From the representations you have had, have you reason to believe that great profligacy exists among the women, swearing and drinking and gambling?—I know that swearing and drinking do, they are the prominent evils; they stupify themselves and get rid of reflection; and I think they get rid of all self-consciousness as to sex; they seem to be unsexed when they are turned into the yard.

Has it come under your observation that persons coming out of the gaol in that character are considerably worse, in point of moral feeling, than they were when they entered it?—I have not observed that; but I should suppose that it was scarcely possible to be otherwise.

Is your advice more commonly solicited among the women by those committed for trial, or those actually under sentence?—After trial, I think, generally speaking; they are buoyed up with the delusion of escaping, of being acquitted, and they do not like to say much till they know what the event will be.

Has it fallen under your observation, that very decent women have been sent to Newgate, who have afterwards been acquitted of the charge preferred against them?—Yes, I think it has.

And who have for a great number of weeks been associated with persons of the character you have described?—Very decent persons are usually in possession of the means by which they can secure a separation, namely, by a payment they can be put on what is called the master's side; the only distinction between the master's side, and the common side, is that of payment.

Is there any separation between them and the other prisoners, in regard to their yard?—No; but they can keep themselves to themselves; none of the other people can come into their room without their leave.

There is no attempt at classification among persons unable to pay that sum of money which entitles them to the master's side, women charged with every crime, tried and untried?—I think there is a feeble attempt at separation; that they who are better behaved get upon the first floor; and they not so creditable, or more noisy, or more drunken, get upon the lower floor.

Is that made with reference to their causes of confinement, or their conduct in prison?—Their conduct; and indeed, in the first instance, their appearance.

There is an entry in the felons side "Occurrences," that on October the 17th, 1814, Wood, the postman, died at eleven at night on the state side, being removed, by his particular desire, from the Infirmary on that evening; was that removal with your knowledge?—I have not a recollection of the circumstance at this moment.

Do you frequently attend the prison late in the evening?—Not frequently; I am not among the people late in the evening; I frequently after dinner go in, that is, about six o'clock, and go into the boys school.

You have no personal observation in the prison that would enable you to state whether women are left among the men at night?—O dear no; they are not left among the men; they are all turned out after a certain hour; the Turnkeys go in and bring them all out, and examine them.

That

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

That is the rule of the prison, but is it observed?—It is the fact; I speak now of the criminal side.

You visit the debtors side occasionally, do you not?—I visit the debtors side occasionally, but I do not go there unless I am sent for; I find I can do very little good. I have very little command over them; they are inclined only to scoff, and they think one has no business there, and they are buoyed with the hope of being but a short time there.

Have you ever been sent for by the debtors, for spiritual consolation?—Yes, I have; a person was in the Infirmary, and he wished, after I had seen him two or three times, to communicate, and I administered the Sacrament to him.

You attend the prisoners previous to execution?—Yes, twice in the day.

Have you ever obtained information from those prisoners, as to the irregularities committed in the prison?—No, not information from the prisoners; I have made some little discoveries of my own, but not any from information of the prisoners who were to suffer.

Can you state to the Committee any irregularities that you have either known from others, or discovered yourself, to exist in the prison?—There is one fact which I ascertained, that they had had too much liquor by some means or other.

Just before execution?—Yes; more liquor than I approved of; and I was obliged to speak to Mr. Newman, and to request that orders might be given for no liquor to be given them.

It has been the custom for persons in that situation to endeavour to prop up their spirits?—I believe it has been too much the custom.

Have you knowledge enough of the personal characters of the Turnkeys to say whether they are persons of decent and ordinary behaviour?—The head Turnkeys are, I believe, from what I have seen; and when persons were about to suffer, I must say I never saw more humanity and more attention than I have seen in those Turnkeys as to the poor unfortunate people.

Do you believe that the Turnkeys would repress swearing in the yard, or any grossly indecent conversation?—Any thing very gross, I think they would, if it met their ears or eyes: in fact, I have heard a man swear in the yard, and I have said, "Mr. Davis, that ought not to be suffered," and he has gone to stop it immediately.

Do you believe that would have been done if you had not observed it?—Yes, I think if he had heard it, it would.

Are you acquainted with the order of the City, that no children above the age of two years should be admitted to visit the criminal prisoners more than once a week?—I know there is such an order.

Is it complied with as far as your observation goes?—Yes, it is complied with; for I am in the habit continually of hearing complaints against the order, and persons are applying to me to have their children introduced; I always send them for an order to the Sheriff or Under-Sheriff.

In cases where you make that application, is it granted?—I never make the application myself; I send them.

Do you know whether they generally succeed in that application?—Yes, I believe they generally do; I have very often seen the orders they have brought to the Turnkeys, lying on the Turnkey's desk in the lodge.

Has it fallen within your own observation, that girls of the age of thirteen or fourteen have been lately admitted into the prison, to pass the day with their mothers, or to remain with them?—I do not know it of my own knowledge.

When applications are made for pardon on the part of the prisoners, is any reference ever made to you, as to the conduct of the prisoner while he has been in prison?—It is, sometimes; Mr. Capper usually desires me to call upon him if he wants to ask me any question about the behaviour of the people in the prison.

It is not a general rule that, prior to a pardon being granted to any convicted prisoner, you should be applied to, as to your opinion of his conduct and character?—No; only when information is wished; I have had a pardon expressly sent me by Mr. Capper, that I might read the man a lecture before he went out, which I did.

Is it understood among the prisoners that a reference of that kind is commonly made to you?—No, I do not think it is.

Do you not think it would lead to some improvement on the part of the prisoners, and respect towards you, if it was understood that your testimony as

Newgate Prison.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

as to their conduct and behaviour would be asked, before a pardon was granted ?—Yes, I should think it would, but it would place me in an awkward situation; because, if I gave a certificate for one, every body else would expect it, and think that I used them ill if I did not do the same; when they send their petitions to the Secretary of State, I carry them, but I never sign the petitions, because, if I was to sign them for one, I must sign them for nearly all, and then my signature would pass for nothing, it would be of no manner of use; I sometimes speak for them when I know they are well behaved, and I think they are deserving of attention.

Is it common for dissenters to come into the prison to address the prisoners in any way ?—If a prisoner desires it, I never refuse any dissenter.

Have you ever found any inconvenience from dissenters coming into the prison in that way ?—No, certainly not; I always facilitate it where I can, when any application is made; I have had application from dissenting teachers to go; I always say, "If the people desire to see you, certainly, but do not press it upon them without;" and as to those under a sentence of death, I always ask them, whether if there is any particular Minister they would wish to see, and I make a point of calling on that Minister and press him to come.

You state that you sometimes go into the different wards of the prison ?—Yes.

When you so go there, do the prisoners always treat you with that respect which is due to your situation ?—Always.

Do you think that if you had not a Turnkey to go up with you, the prisoners would conduct themselves in the same manner ?—O dear yes, I do not stand for a Turnkey.

You go about the prison without a Turnkey ?—O dear yes.

And have never met with any thing that could be construed into personal disrespect ?—No, because I always treat them as reasonable beings; I always take off my hat when I go into the ward, and while I treat them thus, they will treat me with respect; the more respect I pay them, the more they will respect me, I am satisfied.

Supposing a dissenting minister to wish to go into the prison, without his presence having been expressly desired by any prisoner, would any objection be made on your part?—The gentleman would probably come to me, and I should ask what his object was; and if he said it was to administer spiritual consolation, I should ask whether that person had been a member of his society, and whether he knew any thing of the person beforehand, and whether that person wished him to come there.

Are there in Newgate any prisoners who are far advanced in life?—There are in Newgate from twenty to thirty prisoners under sentence of transportation, who are old, infirm, blind, &c. and are deemed incapable of being disposed of to the hulks, or transported; prisoners of such description are a great burthen on the prison; amongst them there is an old man stone blind, and two old women of sixty-eight and seventy years of age.

Giltspur-street Compter.

Rev. Manley Wood.

The Reverend *Manley Wood* was called in, and Examined.

You are Chaplain of the Giltspur-street Compter and the Borough Compter? —I am.

Have you any written instructions ?—None at all, at present; but I understood from some of the Aldermen in private conversation, that when the new prison is erected and the debtors are removed, I am to have written instructions, but that at present they consider the thing in the state in which it formerly was.

Your prison being to be then made the House of Correction ?—Yes.

What do you understand to be your duty, beginning with the Giltspur-street Compter ?—The duty, as before undertaken by the Chaplain, was that of reading prayers on the Sunday morning; the whole of the prayers, and preaching a sermon; and certain of the members of the Court of Aldermen have told me, that in future when the other prison was erected, and the debtors were removed, they should expect there should be weekly duty, but at present it has not been begun.

You are also Chaplain to the Borough Compter ?—I am.

Giltspur-street Compter.

Rev. Manley Wood.

At what time is the service performed on the Sunday?—At the Compter in Giltspur-street, at a quarter before ten on the Sunday morning; and at the Borough Compter, at half past eleven or a quarter before twelve.

Is the whole service performed at Giltspur-street?—The whole in both places, and a sermon.

Is any weekly visitation made for other purposes?—There is none at present demanded, but I go and enquire once or twice in a week from Mr. Teague in the Giltspur-street Compter, and Mr. Law, whether there are any persons requiring my attendance, and I inform them of their duty, to the best of my power.

Is there any separation of boys from the rest of the prisoners?—I do not believe there are many boys there; I do not see any, except boys who are committed.

Is there any separation of them?—I do not know that there is.

There is no establishment there in the nature of a school?—I believe not.

Do you visit the prison two, or three times a week?—Sometimes once a week, and sometimes twice, when I find any thing to be done there, that there are young persons in the Borough Compter. There are a great many prostitutes committed, and when I find they feel a compunction, or are likely to be operated upon, I go more frequently; it is my desire to fulfil my duty, and when the thing is organized, I hope to discharge the duties of my office better; I go principally to Giltspur-street, because there are more prisoners there than in the Borough.

There are only night-charges in the Borough?—There are a few debtors, but the criminal prisoners are for the night.

Is there any separation between the male and female prisoners in the Borough Compter?—I believe there is but one yard, and I think I have heard the keeper Law say, that there is but one privy.

Is there any separation between female and male prisoners in the Borough Compter?—I cannot exactly answer that; I believe there can be but little separation, for there is very little room; the house was not intended for such a purpose, and unless something is done to it, there can be but little separation.

Are you often sent for to communicate with prisoners in the Borough Compter or Giltspur-street Compter?—I have been several times sent for to the Borough Compter; I went to a boy latterly, and to a woman of the name of Doyle, since that, to communicate with her.

How came the boy to be there?—For an act of felony; Doctor Rose had begun to point out to the boy the importance of a different sort of life; and I went to hear him read a chapter or two in the New Testament, and to hear him repeat his catechism, and to explain to him the importance of a lad at his time of life doing better.

What was his name?—Richard Baldwin; he was there when I was appointed, and had been about two months, I think.

Have you any book of any kind in which you make entries of your observations?—No, I have not; I go now occasionally, but I expect when the new prison is done, that we shall be placed upon the footing of reading prayers once or twice a week; and I have made no arrangements nor done any thing more than I was called upon to do, till the thing was put into a train by the Court of Aldermen.

Do you live near the prison?—No, I do not.

At what distance from it?—From the Giltspur-street to Tottenham is five miles, and from the Borough Compter about six.

Have you any other cure of souls besides those two?—Nothing but the afternoon lectureship of Saint Olave's in Crutched Friars, which does not at all interfere with them.

Do you keep an academy for the education of young persons?—I do not; I have no sort of avocation to interfere with my going as often as I may find it necessary; I receive into my house one or two young foreigners, from being a good deal acquainted with merchants, and having been on the Continent myself; I devote two or three hours to reading with them, but the greatest part of what they learn is from conversation with me and my family, so that that does not interfere with the discharge of my duty; I would not have taken this situation if I had not intended conscientiously to perform the duties.

You have received no written regulations from the Court of Aldermen since your appointment?—I have not; but I have understood from Sir James Shaw,

Giltspur-street Compter.

Rev. Manley Wood.

in private conversation, that when the new prison is built in White-cross Street, and the convicts and the others are separated, and this is made a house of correction, they do mean to give me orders for weekly attendance, and for reading prayers on one or two of the week-days.

Do the Keepers of those prisons attend chapel?—The Keeper of the Borough Compter every Sunday; I never knew him missing but one Sunday, and that in consequence of an order from Sir Watkin Lewes, his superior, to come to him that day about some business; Mr. Teague and Mr. Kirby attend chapel about alternate Sundays, one one Sunday, and the other the other, and when they are not there, the superior servants are there.

Is the Sacrament ever administered at either of those places?—I have never administered it; I have spoken about it, and asked whether any of the prisoners were desirous of receiving the Sacrament, but they were not; when I was at the Fleet, I administered it whenever they wished to receive it; but I shall propose to the Court of Aldermen there shall be an exhibition of the bread and wine at certain times, whether they chuse to receive it or not.

Have you ever been called upon by the prisoners in Giltspur-street to administer spiritual consolation?—I have never been called upon, unless when I have shewn I was there; the debtors in Giltspur-street are generally very reasonable men; they appear from their conduct in church to understand their duty very well; they are very orderly in the chapel, and seem to be very intelligent; they join in the prayers and join in the psalm-singing, and turn from one part of the prayer book to the other with as much attention as any congregation I have ever seen out of doors.

Has it ever fallen under your observation, and have you ever made any remonstrance as to the mixture of untried prisoners in the cells of Giltspur-street Compter, under different charges, persons for misdemeanors, for bastardy, and persons under charge of bigamy, with persons under accusation for felony?—I did not understand it was so; I do not go into the cells to them, I have them sent for, or go into the chapel.

Have you ever visited them in their cells?—I have not.

If a boy should be committed to that prison on any charge, would any Report be made to you by the Keeper of the prison, stating that a person of that tender age was confined?—I have desired Mr. Teague to mention to me if there were any boys brought in; he has done it; and I think he would generally make a point of doing it.

What salary do the City of London give you for the different Compters you attend?—Hitherto they have given me none; I do not understand that any thing is to be settled till the new prison is built.

You have for the last six months performed those duties without receiving any emolument?—Yes; I have not applied for any; I mentioned the circumstance to Sir James Shaw, and he said, "Mr. Wood, if you are in want of money, (which, thank God, I am not,) you shall have money; but we had rather, before we make any alteration as to the mode, or as to your payment, have the new prison erected."

Of course you expect your salary to be retrospective?—Certainly. I have been asked whether I lived at Tottenham: I have been two or three-and-twenty years a clergyman in London: I lived in London till within these five years. I am a great deal afflicted with the stone, and I was recommended to live in the country, and to make use of horse-exercise to come to London; therefore I have a horse, and the time is nothing to ride four or five miles to attend such a duty as this; that is my reason for living in the country; it is my state of health, which renders it necessary.

You resided there at the time you were appointed?—Yes; I have resided there five years; I would not have undertaken this if I had not felt myself competent to the discharge of the duties. I resigned a curacy because I was not competent to the discharge of the duties of that living out of town.

The Borough Compter.

Mr. John Law.

Mr. *John Law* was called in, and Examined.

You are keeper of the Borough Compter?—Yes.

When you were examined before the Committee last year, you were paid for your duties as gaoler by your appointment to another office?—Yes.

Is that the case now, or is your remuneration put on another footing?—I have done entirely with my duty as an officer of the Court of Requests; I have

The Borough Compter.

Mr. John Law.

have not attended it since the commencement of the Magistracy in Southwark, which was the 8th of July; but I have derived some profit from it; it has been done, with some assistance, till within these two months; the clerks of the Court of Requests Office have orders now not to deliver any more papers to me, but to give them to another officer.

Have you now any office but that as keeper of the gaol?—No.

What is your salary now?—It is not fixed at present; I expect the Court of Aldermen will fix my salary very shortly.

How long is it since you have done any duty as an officer of the Court of Requests?—I do not recollect doing any duty myself since the 8th of July 1814; the papers were delivered to me, but done by an assistant, and not myself.

Have you any office now that occasions your being absent from the prison?—I attend the sitting Magistrate at the Town Hall daily, to take an account of all that are committed, and all that are taken upon night charges; whoever are taken up are committed to my custody.

What are the hours of attendance?—From eleven till about two; sometimes not so long, sometimes a little later.

What class of persons are now commited to the Borough Compter?—Those who have been committed for felonies, misdemeanors, and debtors.

Persons being committed to the Borough Compter for felonies and misdemeanors is new?—Yes, since the 8th of July last.

When you were examined last year before the Committee, it was observed, it was inconvenient for the male and female debtors to be without separation, has any separation been provided since that time?—No; there is only one water-closet for them in the day-time; and in the night-time I lock them into their separate yards.

There is the same yard for them in the day-time?—Yes, there is.

Is there a lock at the door of the womens apartments, and is that door carefully locked every night?—It is, if we have any one there; and a bolt to the inside of the door.

What alteration has taken place in the nature of allowances to prisoners since you were examined last year before the Committee?—I think the allowance is the same as that made during the sitting of the Committee last year.

Is garnish abolished?—Entirely, on my part; I apprehend there is a misunderstanding in the Report of the Committee last year; I never received 2*s.* 6*d.* which was stated in the Report last year.

Was no part of that received by you?—Yes; they used to pay 2*s.* a gallon; the beer was twenty pence, and the remaining four pence I received; that is all abolished.

That receipt of the four-pence is now put a stop to?—Yes; I believe they do sometimes exact a kind of garnish among themselves, but I take every step to suppress it.

Is your prison visited regularly by any of the Aldermen?—Yes.

How often?—Sometimes once a week, or once a fortnight.

Have you any book in which their visits are recorded?—I have.

[*The Witness produced a Book.*]

What is the number of prisoners in your prison now?—There were twenty nine this morning; fourteen debtors, four felons, nine misdemeanors, and one fine.

Do the Magistrates who visit, know that there is but one water-closet for the men and the women?—I apprehend they must; there is but one yard, and the water-closet at the end of it.

What separation takes place between the criminals and the debtors?—There is the felons yard and another yard; we generally put the misdemeanors with the debtors.

What separation is there between the other descriptions of prisoners?—We have no convenience for separating them.

Is that so with respect to males and females?—No; I generally appropriate one ward in the debtors part for the female debtors; we find three wards to be sufficient for the number of debtors that are committed lately.

To what yard have the female criminal prisoners access then?—They have no yard to resort to but the debtors yard; I never suffer them to come out; they

The Borough Compter.

Mr. John Law.

they are locked in, and have conveniences in their room; we may unlock them for an hour or two to empty their pots and things.

The female criminals are locked into that room during the whole time they are in the prison?—Yes; except for an hour or two in the day.

Have those female prisoners been tried or untried?—Most of them untried; we have only one who has been tried and sent back for a month's imprisonment.

Do you confine the untried and the tried together?—The felons we do.

All female criminals are put into this one debtors ward into which they are locked, except during the hour that they are allowed to come into the yard?—The female misdemeanors I generally class with the female debtors.

The female misdemeanors are classed with the female debtors, and the felons of other descriptions, tried or untried, are locked into this one room, from which they are allowed to come for an hour into the yard, to empty their pots, and for other purposes?—Yes; the female criminals for two or three hours in the day sometimes, when we see what sort of characters they are.

Have you found the gaol too small for the number of prisoners you have had confined there?—I cannot say it is too small; we could wish to have a separation of the different classes.

Divine Service is performed every Sunday?—Yes.

Does the Clergyman ever come on a week day?—He has done so.

How frequently?—He has not been there lately.

How lately?—He has not been there I dare say these two or three months; there was a boy who belonged to a decent family, and he visited him frequently, and instructed him; and also a poor unfortunate girl; the boy was about eleven years of age.

Where was that boy confined, with the felons?—No; with the female debtors in general, except of a night, he was taken away and locked up.

Sir John Eamer is the only visiting Magistrate?—I have seen Sir James Shaw also.

Sir John Eamer has been there about once a fortnight?—Sometimes he has been there once a week; the last time he was there he did not report.

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Mr. *John Addison Newman* was again called in, and Examined.

In the visiting occurrence-book, it appears that a debtor upon misconducting himself is sent to the felons-side of the prison?—Yes.

Upon what authority is that done?—By one of the Rules and Orders, signed by the Judges; they are not confined among the felons, but in a separate cell or room.

Who has the charge of the female debtors?—A debtor who happens to have a wife; he is not in the charge of the female debtors, but only of the gate to admit persons to and fro.

He has the charge of the gate, and acts for you in the nature of a Turnkey?—Yes.

You mean a debtor who has a wife always resident with him in prison?—Yes.

It appears from the occurrence-book, that the wife of one of the prisoners slept in the debtors ward?—Yes; improperly.

Is that a common occurrence in the debtors ward?—No, it is not very common; and whenever it is discovered, we punish it by preventing the woman coming in, and discharging the steward from his office. There is a rule in the prison that no woman shall sleep in a man's ward, and the same as to men on the womens side.

It appears also that the stewards have often been discharged for permitting lights in the rooms after eleven at night?—Yes, it is frequently done.

Whenever you discover it, you discharge the steward from his situation?—Yes, always.

In the book there is a note concerning the ashes not being taken away; what is the reason of that being entered?—It is a complaint against the scavengers; they have left them for a week together, and then it becomes a nuisance; and I have applied to the visiting Magistrates.

That appears to occur nearly every week?—Yes.

Who appoints the scavengers?—It is under a Committtee called the Commissioners of Sewers.

On

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

In October 16th the postman is stated to have been removed from the Infirmary to his own room, where he died; by whose order was that?—He was well enough, apparently, to be removed, and he thought he should be happier in his own room, which was on the state-side; it was not an infectious fever.

On the 20th of November Alderman Wood states that the rain penetrated every window and roof; has that been mended?—It has been endeavoured to be mended, but the roof is so generally bad that it must undergo a thorough repair, which it cannot until we get rid of the debtors; they are continually patching it.

In bad weather does the wet penetrate into the lower rooms?—Into the upper rooms very frequently, and so downwards; it penetrates also into my house, and the Surveyor on examination, says that there is the dry rot.

There is an order that no children above the age of two years shall be permitted to visit the criminal prisoners more than once a week; is that observed?—It is.

Is it an occasional visit, or are they allowed to remain?—An occasional visit; but the same evil that always has existed still continues; for when the women get their children in they will not part with them.

Have not you occasionally orders for the admission of children within the week?—Yes.

What has been the reason for the order of exclusion except once a week?—The idea is that they shall not be coming there to have their morals corrupted.

Upon what special grounds is that order dispensed with, by a special order?—The mother states she has not seen her children for a long while, and that is pressed upon the feelings of the Magistrates.

Are there any prisoners who are infirm and blind?—Yes, there are some.

How long have they been in the prison?—I think, some of them as much as a year.

Veneris, 21° *die Aprilis*, 1815.

At the House of Commons:

The Honourable HENRY GREY BENNET, in the Chair.

Mr. *John Addison Newman*, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

YOU stated before the Committee last year, that your salary was 450*l.* a year?—Yes.

And you stated also, that the fees and emoluments of the prison, after all expenses were paid, gave you upon the average from 600*l.* to 1,000*l.* per annum clear profit?—Yes, I believe it does.

Did you mean to include in that calculation, the rents of the rooms as well as the fees?—I meant that after all receipts and payments, I had from 600*l.* to 1,000*l.* a year clear, including rents and fees.

Can you state to the Committee what is the annual amount of fees alone?—I calculate that the fees alone, which are paid or payable by prisoners, is about 1,000*l.* a year; and I think they are mostly paid.

Can you at all state what proportion is from the debtors?—I think there is about one thousand debtors go out in the course of a year, and each of them pays 8*s.* 10*d.* so that it is more than a third of the 1,000*l.*; and there are attendances by writs of Habeas Corpus, and those things, that may produce something more.

Of that money due, what proportion do you suppose you actually receive?—I think I receive it all from the debtors.

Either paid by the debtors or from some charity?—Yes; there are very few debtors excused, because there are so many modes of payment.

What are those modes of payment?—By the Society for the Relief of Debtors, in Craven-street, by Christ's Hospital, and by one or two of the City Companies occasionally.

Can you at all state the amount of the several payments that those different sources afford?—With respect to the debtors, it is very difficult to state it, because we do not keep any account of where it comes from.

Can you at all state what proportion of the debtors fees are paid by them-

Newgate Prison.

Mr. *J. A. Newman.*

selves?—I should suppose above a third is not paid by themselves; I should say about a third, speaking by guess, is not paid by themselves; the fee at Newgate is only upon going out.

Can you state at all what inducement debtors have to pay their fees, if it is known in the prison that for above two days they will not be confined?—The debtors never refuse it; we never have had any difficulty about it; the inducement to the felon is, that we do not tell them we shall keep them only two days; we say we shall keep them till the fees are paid, though in practice we do not.

Can you state to the Committee what is the proportion of the felons who pay their fees?—When I made the return of profits, I said of those who had actually paid. Of the felons, I suppose there are not above a third who pay their fees; but in my returns of the profits, I only took the payments.

What do you estimate the fees payable by prisoners?—The difference between the 450 *l.* and the 1,000 *l.*

Can you state what proportion of that 600 *l.* is paid by the criminals themselves?—The criminals pay all the fees themselves; there is no charity to pay fees for them.

£. 1,800 would be received from the criminals, if all was paid?—Yes.

Do you include in that, fees paid upon the removal of transports?—No; I mean payments by the prisoners themselves.

It appears in your occurrence-book, that the party is frequently discharged on a promise to pay his fees?—That is the way we do it; we take their words for it.

Do they frequently come and pay them?—No, very seldom; sometimes it has happened; if they wish to visit any body in the prison, they pay their fees, because we do not admit them into the prison till they have; the table of fees is, for every felon discharged, 18 *s.* 10 *d.* and 6 *s.* 2 *d.* to the Clerk of the Arraigns.

And no other fee?—No.

Do the Clerk in Court's fees go towards the support of the prison?—No.

What part of the fees you receive, goes to the support of the prison, or to pay you?—All I receive.

From what do you take the account of 600 *l.* a year, arising from fees on the criminal side?—From weekly returns that have been made to me.

Is that the sum received in the year 1814?—As nearly as I can guess, it is, speaking by whole numbers; there may be a fee on a Habeas Corpus included.

In those you do not include any chamber rents?—No.

In the sum of 600 *l.* do you include the sums paid for the entrance into the master's and state side?—Yes, I believe it is so; they are entered into the Book of Fees.

Have you any account from which you could state at all the number of persons who enter upon the master's side in the course of a year?—Yes.

And the number on the state side?—Yes, I think I could do that; it would take some little time, because I should have to pick it out.

What is the fee for entrance on the state side?—The fee is three guineas; I take only two.

On the master's side what is it?—Thirteen shillings and sixpence; ten shillings and sixpence, and the first week's rent.

You state that only one-third of the felons pay fees?—Every master's side prisoner pays fees on entrance, or he would not be admitted.

Is there any other payment included in this 600 *l.* a year, which is not a fee upon admission to the master's side, or upon admission to the state side, or upon going out of prison?—There may be a conduct-fee, as it is called; that is, taking a person out of prison by Habeas Corpus or any other means.

But that is not to a very great amount?—I should suppose not.

Are the allowances that are paid by the city of London, consisting of food, clothing, fuel, &c. distinct from the Sheriffs Fund?—Yes.

In what manner was the Sheriffs Fund applied, before the late augmentation on the part of the City, and in what manner since?—Several things that are now chargeable on the regular allowance, were before chargeable on the Sheriffs Fund; such as meat, a pound and a half of meat a week; clothing where it was wanted; money to the poorer persons; and payments for the discharge of some of the debtors.

All those payments took place heretofore, before the new allowances by the city of London were given from the Sheriffs Fund?—Yes.

What payments are now made out of that fund?—The same, except the meat.

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

What proportion would the payment for the meat have taken out of the whole sum?—The meat would have been full a pound and a half per week for each debtor.

What is the average number of prisoners?—Five hundred; the meat would be 750 pounds; the meat used to be got at eight-pence a pound; it is now got at seven-pence.

Then the deductions from the Sheriffs Fund, applicable to these purposes, must have been about 25 *l.* a week?—It did not turn out so; for at the time I had the paying of it, it was seldom more than 12 *l.* a week.

You consider 12 *l.* a week as the average?—Yes; from the payments that came through my hands, that was the average.

What is the whole amount of the Sheriffs Fund?—I do not know; it depends upon charitable gifts.

Then the 600 *l.* which used to be paid for providing the prisoners with meat, is now applicable to other purposes?—Yes.

Will you state those purposes?—The late Sheriffs have ordered me to furnish clothing two or three times; when I have had no money from the Sheriffs Fund, I have applied to the Court of Aldermen for the clothes, and charged them to the Court of Aldermen.

Have you had a considerable balance lately in your hand from the Sheriffs Fund?—No; I have always been in advance till this present Sheriffalty; the practice with the present Sheriffs is to give me 50 *l.* and when that is gone they give me 50 *l.* more.

Can you state the whole expenditure from the Sheriffs Fund in any one year?—The greatest sum that has ever gone through my hands is about 600 *l.* which was in the Sheriffalty of Messrs. Blades and Hoy.

How long is that ago?—Two years ago.

In what manner do you apply the Sheriffs Fund now, when it no longer furnishes the meat; you have stated that it furnishes some clothing?—I have paid for clothing several times by the Sheriffs orders; I have paid for the discharge of eighteen or twenty Court of Conscience debtors, by the Sheriffs orders, and for the discharge of Sheriffs debtors sometimes.

Of what is the Sheriffs Fund composed?—It is composed, as I understand, of a legacy by some lady; that is likely to produce 100 *l.* a year; but which sum I believe it has not produced yet; and the contributions of charitably disposed persons.

Should you think that fund ever produced 1,000 *l.* a year?—No.

Is there any report to be found of the amount of that fund?—Not unless it has been in the public Newspapers.

The prisoners consented that certain legacies to the amount of about 60 *l.* a year should be made common stock of, in a fund called the Debtors Fund?—Yes.

What is the amount of that?—The amount at present is, that I have about 50 *l.* or 60 *l.* in hand, and the Steward of the prison receives from me 6 *l.* a week out of it at present, and he divides it according to the number of the Charity Wards: there are eight men's wards and two women's wards; they are not exactly in equal proportions, for the long ward has a share and a half; the small wards half a share, and the others, one share, and the steward has a shilling in the pound for managing it.

What is this fund to purchase?—Whatever they please.

It is paid in money to them?—It is; and they determine among themselves how they will lay it out; they used to lay it out in coals, and so they do in part now, when the coals will not last the proper time, from their waste.

Is it paid to the individuals by the steward, or does he lay it out for the common benefit, as the majority think fit?—In some of the wards they pay it to the steward, and keep a book of what he expends, and in other wards they divide it in money.

What is the average weekly payment you make?—It is now very large; it has been so low as 2 *l.* a week; every quarter we make an average of it, and the average is taken in this way; I suppose what is to come in the course of a year from the charitable donations, and add that to the stock in hand, and then divide that by fifty-two, and give it them weekly.

Should you suppose the average annual amount of that fund to reach 250 *l.*?—I am not able to answer that question; I pay 6 *l.* a week now; the last winter was productive.

Would

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Would you say on an average 4 *l.* a week?—No, I think not more than three on an average.

That is about 150 *l.* a year?—Yes; but the Debtors Common Stock is a Fund diſtinct from, and eſtablished by, the charitable assistance of Mr. Quarles Harris, before the commencement of the Sheriffs Fund, which began about half a year afterwards in the Sheriffalty of Alderman Christopher Smith, and Sir Richard Phillips.

Do you mean then that 600 *l.* of the Sheriffs Fund is made up of a legacy of 100 *l.* and other voluntary bequests?—Yes.

Can you at all give the Committee any idea of the expense of the City, occasioned by Newgate?—Yes; in an Account which I prepared to lay before the House of Lords, I calculated that the whole of the expense altogether was somewhere between 11,000 *l.* and 12,000 *l.*

Your salary is 450 *l.*?—Yes.

Have you any notion of the expense of the repairs of the building?—No, I have no idea about that.

What other expenses are the City at for Officers, besides yourself?—The Ordinary and Surgeons; they pay no other Officers, I pay them.

What is the Ordinary?—The last Ordinary had 300 *l.* a year, and two freedoms every quarter, which would make 500 *l.* a year.

What had the Surgeon?—150 *l.* and a bill for medicines.

Amounting to what?—The bill for medicines amounts to about 300 *l.* a year; it may be more; it depends on circumstances entirely.

Then the remainder of their expenses is principally in food and allowances?—Yes.

At what do you estimate the value of food and allowances for prisoners?—The bread bill appeared to be about 2,500 *l.* a year, taking the quartern loaf at 1 *s.* the meat, about 1,500 pounds, taking it at 7 *d.* a pound; that is a mere average drawn from looking at one or two of the last bills that came into my possession, so that I cannot be correct exactly in it.

What other allowances are made to the prisoners at the expense of the City?—Clothing and rugs.

What is the expense of that?—The rugs are estimated at about 300 *l.* a year, and the clothing I cannot state; it has been a good deal at times.

Has it been 100 *l.* a year?—More than that.

Has it been 200 *l.*?—More than that.

£. 250?—I cannot say, correctly; and on the removal of convicts for transportation, every female costs about two guineas and a half in clothing before her removal.

Do the City receive from Government the 2*s.* 6 *d.* a week, usually paid in the bill of Sheriffs cravings, for each transport confined in the City gaol?—I believe not.

Can you at all state to the Committee what diminution of expense would be occasioned to the City, by the removal of transports from their gaols within a short time after their sentence?—No, I am not able to state it.

Would it not be very considerable?—I think it would.

Can you state what increase of expense has been occasioned to the City, by the augmentation of the allowance since last year; can you state the average?—The greatest part of the meat, three-fourths of it; and an additional allowance of bread and of coals; the coals are calculated at about 900 *l.* a year; the increased allowance of bread I am not able to say; and twenty-eight ounces of bread to each felon in a week additional; I believe that is a third of a quartern loaf to each; there is a quartern loaf to three prisoners, and there is an average of from three to four hundred people.

Are there any other material allowances made to the prisoners by the City, besides bread, meat, rugs, cloaths and coals?—No.

Then the whole internal expense of the prison is paid by the prisoners themselves, either from the rents of the rooms, or from fees on their entrance and discharge?—Yes, with the exception of my salary, and the Surgeons and Ordinaries, and some allowances to some of the prisoners; the Nurses in the sick wards have a trifling allowance paid by the City; I give 7 *s.* a week to the two Nurses on the debtors-side, and 4 *s.* a week to a Nurse on the felons side.

Would the sum of 1,000 *l.* a year cover all the allowances made by the City to prisoners in the prison, in addition to bread, and the other articles already enumerated?—All the allowances in money.

Would

Newgate Prison.

Mr. J. A. Newman.

Would it allow mops, brooms, brushes, &c.?—No; I have not taken that in at present, the City will have to find those things besides.

What allowances are there besides those you have mentioned?—Mops and brooms I have not mentioned at all, and I do not know how to form an average; I think 350 *l.* would cover all the other allowances under the name of sundries; the whitewashing the prison is another expense the City is put to; that amounts to a good deal sometimes.

That would be covered by the 350 *l.*?—Perhaps it might sometimes; one year it was 40 *l.* and some years it has been more.

Is the Committee right in supposing that the whole expense of Newgate, independent of the repair of the buildings, is a little more than 7,000 *l.* a year?—I have been as correct as I possibly can with respect to the different articles, but I cannot speak to the total.

Mr. *Christopher Morris*, again called in, and Examined.

King's Bench Prison.

Christopher Morris.

How long have you been Turnkey of the King's Bench?—Eight years next January.

Do you remember a person of the name of Captain Coppinger, confined in the strong room?—No; it was before I came.

Do you remember a person who was a Dutchman being confined there?—There was such a person.

How long ago?—Two or three years ago.

How long was he confined?—He was in a good many days.

Was it days or months he was in?—I think he was in a month, but I cannot say.

Can you say he was in there two months?—I cannot say.

Do you think he was in two months?—I dare say he might be, but I cannot justly say.

Was he in three?—No, I do not think he was.

You think he was in two months, but you are not sure?—I think he was, but I cannot exactly say.

During the whole of that time was there any glass to the windows?—No, he had windows made with oiled paper, that shewed through.

Were they made by him at his own expense, or by his desire?—It was at the Marshal's expense, I believe.

What time of the year was it when he was confined in that room?—I cannot exactly say.

What was he confined for?—For attempting to make his escape; he had got rope ladders, and things of that kind in his room.

Has there been any person confined in the strong room any considerable time lately?—Manning the Jew has been confined there some time.

How long was he in?—Some months.

From what time to what time, as near as you can state?—Five or six months; or it might be more.

At what time of the year was it?—It was a thing I did not expect, or I could have told exactly.

What memorandum do you keep of it?—I could easily tell by the time he went up to be examined at Guildhall; he ran away from the Tipstaff, and went into the country.

Where was he taken?—I cannot tell.

Is any record kept of putting a person into that room?—Not that I know of.

Did you see Manning when he was in the strong room?—Yes, several times; a great many times I went to him.

Did you see him soon after he was put into that strong room?—I saw him put in.

Had he a bed?—Yes, he had a mattrass.

Do you mean to say he had a mattrass within the first month of his being put into that room?—I think so; I will not be positive.

Do not you know he had nothing but straw?—I know he had straw brought in, but he had a bed put on the top of it, I think.

Is the floor boarded or stone?—Boarded.

Do you positively say he had a bed on the straw?—He had, at the last part of the time; but I am not certain as to the first.

For the first month in which he was in that strong room, do you believe that he had any thing else to sleep upon but the straw?—I cannot exactly say.

Did he ever complain to you of suffering from cold, in consequence of having no glasses to the windows?—Not to my knowledge; but he had plenty of blankets and rugs, and things which he stopped them up with.

The windows had no glass?—Certainly not.

It was in the winter that he was confined?—Some part of it might be.

How long after he was confined was it that he got those things?—He had them directly; because we kept a set on purpose.

What do you mean by having a set on purpose?—We had several rugs and blankets lying on the cupboards, which we kept on purpose.

Do you mean he had them the first night he was put in there?—I am pretty sure he had.

Do not you know for the first month or two in which he was in the strong room, he slept upon straw and had no bed?—I cannot tell; I would answer if I knew it; but I cannot say.

You always have rugs and blankets ready prepared for persons who go into the strong room?—We keep them on purpose for persons of that description.

Then if you have those always prepared, how does it happen you should not be certain that he had them the first night he went in?—I am pretty certain he had them, but I cannot positively say; Mr. Brooshooft always orders that the first thing.

Do you mean that the rugs and blankets are kept to be furnished to persons in the strong room, for the purpose of stopping up the windows, or for bedding?—For bedding; he might have one or two at any time in addition.

When you said Manning had bedding, did you mean a mattrass, or only blankets?—I think he had a mattrass, but not on the first night.

You think he had a mattrass towards the end of the time in which he was confined; but he had no mattrass at the beginning?—I cannot say.

Do you usually furnish mattrasses for people in the strong room?—Of course.

Did you furnish the mattrass he had after he had been confined some time?—No, I think it must have been his own.

Then you do not know of your own knowledge, though you saw Mr. Manning repeatedly, whether he had a mattrass or not for the first two months of his confinement?—I do not.

Did he ever complain to you of the want of a mattrass?—Not to my knowledge.

Is any memorandum made of what articles you furnish to persons in the strong room?—No, not that I know of.

Did he complain to you that he suffered from cold?—No, I never heard him to my knowledge; but I did not use to attend him much.

Do you know whether any medical person ever attended him during the time he was there?—I think there was somebody attended.

Do you know what was the complaint with which he was afflicted, during the time he was there?—No.

Do you not know he complained of an inflammation in his chest, caught from the cold he suffered while confined there?—Not to my knowledge.

Have you heard him complain of it since?—No.

Did he cough much?—I may have heard him cough sometimes, but not much.

Is there a fire-place in the room?—No.

Was there any stove, or any means of warming the room?—No.

Was he suffered to come out into the yard in the day-time?—The door was open.

How soon was he permitted to walk into the yard after he had been confined?—I cannot say.

Was he so permitted after he had been confined three months?—I should think before three months, long enough; but Mr. Brooshooft knows that better than I do.

Is it usual to allow persons who are confined in the strong room, to walk about the yard?—Yes; and one of the men stands by and watches them.

Is it usual to confine people for weeks and months in the strong room?—No; it is according to what their offence is.

Who determines when they shall be let out again?—The Marshal.

Did the Marshal know when he was put into the strong room?—Of course.

Was it by his orders?—I suppose so.

From whom did you receive the order?—I did not receive the order; he came in the night time, about eight o'clock; several tipstaffs brought him.

Who

King's Bench Prison.

Christopher Morris.

Who principally attended him while he was in prison?—The Turnkeys do not go to them, the Criers do; Frodsham, I believe, went to him, and Nixon.

Do you know who was the man that waited upon him?—Yes, George Frodsham; it was not any person regular, but two or three of them took it by turns.

Are prisoners in the strong room allowed to see their friends?—Yes.

Always?—Yes, if the Marshal does not think they are improper people.

Do you know whether it was customary, during the time he was so confined, to confine other people along with him for a night, or two or three nights?—I think there was some one person a night or two confined with him, for kicking up a riot.

In point of fact, did many persons visit him?—His Father and Brother and his Wife.

Frequently?—Frequently.

Mr. *Bernard Emanuel Brooshooft*, again called in, and Examined.

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

Is it customary to confine persons for any length of time in a strong room in your prison?—It would depend upon the nature of the offence for which the Marshal thought proper, in the first instance, to send them there.

What is the greatest length of time you remember, since you have been in your situation in the prison, during which a person has been so confined?—I think the person confined for the greatest length of time I recollect, was either Mr. Coppinger, or a man of the name of Manning; I do not remember which was confined longest.

How long was Coppinger confined in the strong room?—I have not the means of ascertaining, but a considerable length of time.

During the time that Captain Coppinger was so confined, was the room in the same state in which the Committee saw it, when they examined the prison?—The Committee saw it, I think, before there were glazed windows to it; at the time Mr. Coppinger was there, when it became cold weather, (if it was cold during the time he was there) there were windows made with paper oiled, with a casement of the same description that the Committee saw.

Used he to complain of the cold?—I do not recollect his making any formal complaint; he never sent to any one of the officers of the prison.

Had he permission to walk in the yard?—To the best of my recollection he had occasionally, as in a recent instance.

For what time was Manning confined there?—From any memorandum I have, I cannot correctly mention the time; but from information, about forty weeks.

From what time to what time?—I do not know; we made no entry of the commitment.

Was it at a time of year somewhere between February and November?—I cannot positively state the time; but he was there certainly at an inclement season of the year.

At the time that he was first placed there, had he any thing besides straw to lie upon?—When he first went, I think it likely he had nothing more than that for the moment.

Do you know how long it was before he had bedding, either of his own, or coming from other quarters, provided for him?—From the same cause, not making any memorandums, I cannot say; it is never withheld from them, if they choose to send for it, or it is found necessary.

You do not recollect that he was a month or two months lying on the straw?—I cannot charge my recollection.

Do you not consider it as a part of your duty to visit persons so confined, having the general care and management of the prison?—I never understood that it was a part of my duty, unless I was required by the party to visit him; I do generally go to them when they are in that situation.

So that unless a person wished to see you, and sent for you, that person might be some months under the care of a Turnkey alone, without any of the Officers of the prison visiting him?—I should hardly conceive that, because I do go without being required.

Did you often visit Manning during the seven months he was confined?—I was often in the room with him.

Did he ever make any complaints to you of suffering from cold during the winter, and from heat during the summer?—Not in particular; complaints of inconvenience arising from his situation generally.

From

King's Bench Prison.

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

From want of air, or unpleasant smells?—No; cold chiefly.

Did his health seem impaired?—I recollect his leaving the strong room, and he appeared in better health then, than when he went into it.

Had he any medical attendance during the time he was in the strong room?—I am not aware of any particular illness he laboured under; if he did labour under any, it was reported to me.

Do not you recollect he had an inflammation on his chest, and was visited by several medical persons during his confinement?—I understood he was visited by medical persons; but what his complaint was, I am unable to inform the Committee.

Was he ever visited by any medical person on the part of the Marshal?—I do not recollect that he was; it might be so, but I cannot tell; I could inform the Committee when I get home.

Do you know whether his sight was at all affected by his having been confined so many weeks in a state of comparative darkness; so that after he quitted the strong room he was obliged for many days to wear a shade?—It never was stated to me, nor did he ever complain; I do not recollect to have heard it reported to me.

Were the windows glazed during any part of the time he was there?—Not glazed, only covered with oiled paper, to the best of my recollection.

During the whole time he was there were they oil-papered?—Only when the cold was complained of; I do not know whether they were immediately covered with paper.

During the time he was in this place of confinement, were other persons placed there too, people in a state of drunkenness almost amounting to a state of frenzy?—I think that must have occurred; that there must have been a necessity for placing persons in confinement during so long a time.

Do you remember any person being confined there in such a state of drunken frenzy as to stab himself while in the room?—Certainly not; but if the name could be mentioned, I could answer more distinctly.

Was it a person of the name of Weaver?—I recollect the name of Weaver; but I do not recollect that occurrence.

Did a man of the name of Cooper do such an act?—No; I do not recollect the circumstance.

Do you think it probable that drunken persons were confined in the strong room while Manning was there?—I believe from there being no other room to confine them, if they got drunk, that must have been the room to confine them in.

There is another strong room further on?—Yes, with a stone floor, which is not fit to confine any person in; it is used to put coals and other things in.

Do you recollect that room with a stone floor being used as a place of confinement?—I do not recollect it.

Can a person be confined in the strong room without the special order of the Marshal?—I believe I have answered that question before; in cases of emergency, cases of complete riot, so that I could not trust a man back into prison till he was restored to reason, and acknowledged his error, or till I saw him in a proper state, I have committed him to the strong room without any special authority from the Marshal.

How long should you suffer a person to remain in the strong room without reporting it to the Marshal?—The very first moment I saw Mr. Jones afterwards, I should report it to him.

And you have always done that?—Always.

And you apprehend that the Marshal knows this strong room has been used as a place of confinement for prisoners of late years?—Certainly I do.

Did you report the case of Mr. Manning to him?—That was by Mr. Jones's orders.

Do you know whether Mr. Jones ever saw Mr. Manning during the time he was in the strong room?—I think Mr. Jones saw him more than once or twice; I cannot say the number of times.

How many years is it since Mr. Manning was confined in the strong room?—I think about two or three years.

Was it not in the year 1813?—I think it was; may I be permitted to explain why he was put there? he committed an escape; he was going up by Habeas Corpus to give evidence before one of the Courts of Justice, and our tipstaff had more

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Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

confidence in him than he ought to have had; there was a warrant out against him at the time for forgery, and he thought his situation might become more uncomfortable than it was, by a removal to a criminal prison, and afterwards taking his trial; and that induced the man to quit his custody, and he was retaken, after great search and expense.

Where was he taken?—I think at Plymouth.

How was he brought up?—One of our officers, or a deputy, went for him.

On what warrant was he brought up?—I believe it was a warrant of Lord Ellenborough's for his apprehension, wherever he might be found; I do not recollect seeing the warrant; he was charged with forgery at the time; and if he had gone into the King's Bench at the time of his return, he would have been very ill treated, and he was aware of that himself.

How often had he leave to walk in the yard, daily?—I have no doubt of it.

To whom does a prisoner apply who wants that indulgence?—It is more a matter of course than of particular application.

Mr. Manning is now among the other prisoners, is not he?—He is; his prosecutor is not willing to go on, and he does not know how to get rid of the warrant.

Was any report made to you of any quarrel in the strong room between Manning and one of the Turnkeys?—He used very strong language to the Officers, and was very insulting, as I was informed by them; rapping at the door when there was no necessity, and making a great piece of work if every thing was not brought at the time he thought he ought to be attended to; he used very abusive language.

Do you recollect any occurrence being reported to you in which blows passed?—I do not; the Marshal would not allow any of the officers to strike a prisoner there, if he knew it, under any circumstances whatever.

Do you not recollect that there was a very serious squabble, in which Manning was supposed to have taken up a knife, upon which a scuffle took place between him and the Turnkey, in which Manning was very much cut, and the Turnkey supposed to be wounded?—I think he cut the Turnkey through the coat and waistcoat, now it is brought to my recollection.

Do you know whether he sustained any injury himself?—No, I never heard that he did.

Did not you think it necessary to visit him, or did not the Marshal think it necessary, after that sort of scuffle?—The Marshal could have done nothing more than he did, having no other place of confinement, nor any mode of punishment.

Do you recollect having seen him within a day or two after the scuffle?—I never heard that he complained.

Did you ever hear that he was dreadfully beat and cut?—No; but there are officers about the prison, who could state the particulars.

When a person is confined in the strong room, where does he go to perform any of those offices of nature that his health may require?—It has always been understood that the usual place, which is nearly adjoining, should be the place of resort.

Is the door left open?—No; but they always have an opportunity of making some of the officers of the prison hear, by having a stick to rap with; and the place where they knock is indented by their rapping more violently than they need do.

Do you not mean to say, that a person might be confined in that room so long, without being permitted to go out of it, as to suffer considerable inconvenience?—Inconvenience might arise sometimes in the course of half-an-hour; but so far as relates to neglect of attending him, there is not that neglect from which any inconvenience could arise.

So that a person could not be there two months, and suffer that inconvenience?—Certainly not; I go by the place two or three times a day myself.

Are any memorandums or entries made of any occurrences respecting a person confined in the strong room, in any journal kept for the purpose?—No; it it is so seldom a person is confined there for any time.

Has any person been confined there two days together since Manning was confined there?—If any person has been confined so long as that, I should think that the extent of the time.

King's Bench Prison.

Mr. B. E. Brooshooft.

No person has been confined in the strong room more than two days since Manning was confined there?—I should think that the extent.

How long was Lord Cochrane confined there before he was removed to his present apartment?—Nearly a month.

Then when you say no person has been confined in the strong room more than two days, since Manning's time, you mean until the confinement of Lord Cochrane?—Yes.

Has that strong room a stone floor, or a boarded floor?—A boarded floor

How long was it before the room was glazed, after Lord Cochrane went into it?—As soon after as it could be done; two or three days.

Was he allowed to walk out daily in the little yard?—I do not think he was, except for the occasions of nature, during the first part of the time he was there.

Had he permission to go out if he chose?—If he had asked it.

Was it communicated to him that he might come out if he chose?—I never communicated it to him.

When you say, a person confined in the strong room might walk in the yard, you do not mean to say that such an intimation is made to the person in the room, but that on application you would grant him leave?—There is no intimation given to him at the time, that I recollect.

Did Lord Cochrane complain of suffering much from cold?—He complained that the room was cold and damp, and that an unwholesome smell arose.

The place for making water in the yard is so situated, that the water soaks into the wall of the strong room?—I think his Lordship was mistaken in that; he said so; but the place for making water is much below the room.

Is there a sewer underneath?—No, there is a cesspool at the bottom, and a large butt underneath, for the reception of the urine.

Was Lord Cochrane permitted to see his friends?—There was no restraint.

The Committee understand the room was so dark, he was obliged almost always, to burn a candle in the day-time?—I have seen him with a candle frequently.

There was a soldier stationed at the door during the night.—Yes.

Who furnished that soldier?—A guard was mounted at the King's Bench just at that time, in consequence of the disturbance about the Corn Bill, and that afforded Mr. Jones an opportunity of employing the soldier to guard Lord Cochrane's room.

How long did the guard stay at the King's Bench?—I cannot tell the day they left, but it must have been ten or twelve days ago; when the brigade was ordered for Holland, the Colonel gave notice that the guard must be discontinued.

After the general guard was discontinued, no other soldier was brought?—No; two additional watchmen were appointed in the inside, till his Lordship was removed to the room over the lobby.

There is no mode of warming the strong room?—There is none; his Lordship made use of charcoal till I begged he would not do so any longer.

Returns and Papers relating to the
KING'S BENCH PRISON.

Appendix, No. 2.

APPOINTMENT of *William Jones*, Esq. to be Marshal of the Marshalsea of the Court of King's Bench.

GEORGE R.

George the Third, by the Grace of God King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting: Whereas the office of the Marshal of the Marshalsea of the Court of *King's Bench* is become vacant by the death of James Walker, Esq. the late Marshal, and is, by virtue of an Act of Parliament made in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of his late Majesty, Our Royal Grandfather, in Our nomination and appointment, by Our letters patent or by Our sign manual: And whereas the said Office is of great importance to the suitors of the said Court, and the persons committed to the prison of the Marshalsea thereof: And Our right trusty and well beloved Counsellor, Lloyd Lord Kenyon, Lord Chief Justice of Our said Court, has recommended to Us William Jones, Esq. of the Inner Temple, as a person fit and every way qualified to execute the said Office: Now know ye, that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity and ability of the said William Jones, have nominated constituted and appointed, and by these presents do nominate constitute and appoint the said William Jones to be Marshal of the Marshalsea of Our said Court of *King's Bench*: And We do hereby grant unto him the said office, and all fees perquisites profits powers privileges and advantages thereto belonging, together with the custody of the prison of the Marshalsea of the said court, and the prisoners thereto committed; To have, hold, exercise and enjoy the same unto the said William Jones, for and during so long time as he shall behave himself well in his said office, and shall be resident in the said Prison, or within the Rules thereof, and no longer. Given at Our Court at St. James's, the nineteenth day of March 1791, in the thirty-first year of Our reign.

By His Majesty's command,

GRENVILLE.

Appendix, No. 3.

King's Bench Prison Rules and Orders, 25 November 1729.

Die Veneris prox̃ post quinden̄ sc̄i Martini, Anno Tertio Georgii Secundi Regis.—

Regula Generalis.—ORDINAT' est per Cur̃ qd in futuro seperat̃ Ordin̄ sive Reglæ hic inferins script̃ et stabilit̃ secundum direction̄ cujusdem Act̃ Parliament̃ in anno regni Dn̄i Georgii Secundi nunc regis Magn̄ Britann̄ &c. secundo fact et edit̃ intitulat̃ "An Act "for the Relief of Debtors, with respect to the Imprisonment of their persons," bene stricte et fideliter observat̃ et conservat̃ fuerint tam ꝑ Marr̃ Maresc̃ huj' Cur̃ et omnes Officiar̃ et servos suos quam ꝑ omnes prisonar̃ qui modo sunt vel in futuro de tempore in tempus fuerint commiss̃ Custođ prefat̃ Marr̃ Et ulterius Ordinat̃ est qd hoc reglæ cum separat̃ ordinibus sive reglis pđ hic inferins script̃ affix̃ erit in maximo publico loco infra prison̄ huj' Cur̃ commeruit̃ vocat̃ The *King's Bench* Prison, pro usu beneficio et inspectionæ prisonar̃ infra prison̄ pđ.

ꝑ CUR'.

RULES and ORDERS for the better government of the *King's Bench* Prison, made and signed by the Lord Chief Justice and Judges of His Majesty's Court of *King's Bench*, whose names are hereunto subscribed, this five and twentieth day of November in the Third year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Second, and in the year of our Lord 1729.——

Rules relating to the Marshal of the said Prison.

1.—That the Marshal of the Marshalsea of this Court do cause a pair of stocks to be kept up in the prison (as has been anciently practised) for the punishment of such prisoners as shall blaspheme the name of God, be guilty of swearing, or behave themselves in a disorderly manner.

2.—That the said Marshal shall be and is hereby strictly enjoined, not to make use of any illegal means of confinement of any prisoner in his custody, upon any pretence whatsoever, nor to confine any prisoner in the hole or room commonly called the Strong Room, or any other unusual place of restraint, nor make use of any other extraordinary means or methods for the confinement of any prisoner, unless such prisoner shall have been found actually attempting or endeavouring to break the prison, with an intent to escape out of the custody of the said Marshal; and every prisoner so confined, shall have liberty to appeal to this

this Court in Term time, or to the Lord Chief Justice or any other Judge of the said Court in time of Vacation, for redress.

3.—That the said Marshal do not presume to sue, or procure to be sued out any Writ of Habeas Corpus, to remove any prisoner from the prison of the *King's Bench* to the prison of the *Fleet.*

4.—That the said Marshal do not presume to turn any prisoner back from the Common side to the Master's side, without reasonable cause, giving such prisoner three days notice of such his intention to remove him; during which time the said prisoner shall have liberty to appeal to any Judge of this Court against such intended removal, in order to prevent the same; pending which appeal, the said prisoner shall be allowed his daily subsistence as before; and in the meantime his share of all dividends and other advantages shall be reserved till such appeal shall be determined.

5.—That in case any prisoner die within the said prison, that the said Marshal shall forthwith give notice to the Coroner, in order that he may enquire according to law, how such prisoner came by his death.

6.—That the said Marshal do take effectual care that no garnish or other exaction be extorted from any prisoner or prisoners under his custody; and do also take proper care that no prisoner or prisoners be deprived of his or their share dues and dividends, on any pretence whatsoever.

7.—That the said Marshal do take effectual care that all and every prisoner and prisoners detained in the *King's Bench* Prison, be permitted and suffered, at his her and their will and pleasure, to send for and have any beer, ale, victuals or other necessary food, from what place they please; and also to have and use such bedding, linen and other things, as he she or they shall think fit, without purloining or detaining the same or any part thereof, or inforcing or requiring him her or them to pay for the having or using thereof, or putting any manner of restraint or difficulty upon him her or them in using thereof or relating thereto, pursuant to the several Statutes in that case made and provided.

8.—That the said Marshal do cause a Table of Fees, as the same shall be settled and confirmed in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made in the second year of his present Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for relief of Debtors, in respect to the Imprisonment "of their persons;" and also a Table of these Rules; together with a List or Table of all gifts, legacies and bequests for the benefit of the prisoners in the said prison, fairly written in a plain and legible hand; to be hung up in some open and public room or place in the said prison, there to remain and be resorted to by every prisoner as occasion shall require, without fee or reward, pursuant to the directions of the said Act.

9.—That the said Marshal do use his utmost endeavour, by all fair and legal methods, to prevent escapes; and that he and all officers under him, do treat the several prisoners under his care with the utmost tenderness and humanity, so far as can be consistent with the safe custody of such prisoners; and that neither the said Marshal, nor any officer or servant employed by him, do demand take or receive, directly or indirectly, of any prisoner or prisoners for debt, any other or greater fee or fees whatsoever for his her or their commitment, chamber-rent, release or discharge, than what shall be mentioned and allowed in such List or Table of Fees so to be hung up as aforesaid.

Rules relating to the Officers and Servants of the Marshal.

10.—That the turnkeys of the said prison do diligently attend at the gate or door of the said prison, as the duty of their office requires, and do admit all such persons to have access to any of the prisoners as by law are entitled thereto.

11.—That no cellarman, turnkey, or other officer or servant of the Marshal whatsoever, shall have or pretend to have any share or part in the charities belonging to the prisoners, or bear any office in the said prison which may entitle him to any power in the disposition or receipt of the said charities.

Rules relating to Prisoners in general.

12.—That the Chapel be continued in the prisón aforesaid, and kept in good repair; and that the Chaplain do constantly attend and perform Divine Service, and administer the Sacrament therein, at the usual and proper times, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England.

13.—That no prisoner wrong or abuse another, upon pain of being punished by setting him in the stocks for such time as the Marshal of this Court, with the consent of the steward and assistants, or any two of them, shall think proper.

14.—That the room, commonly called the Dining-room, be reserved and kept in good repair, for the use and benefit of the prisoners, for the exercise of devotion or for conversation, and that a fire be kept therein as often as the rigour of the season shall require; and that the two rooms under the Dining-room be reserved for the use of such prisoners as shall be afflicted with any disease, or other infirmity, that may require such an accommodation.

Rules relating to Prisoners on the Common Side.

15.—That every prisoner who shall make oath before one of the Judges of this Court, or a Commissioner empowered by this Court, or one of the Justices of the Peace for the county of Surrey, that he or she cannot command five pounds, and cannot subsist without the assistance of the charities belonging to the Common Side, shall immediately be admitted to the said Common Side, and be capable of being elected into all offices, and entitled to all shares dividends and profits belonging to the same.

16.—That no person committed for any criminal matter shall have any vote or suffrage in the electing a steward or other officer of the Common Side; nor shall receive any share of the charities belonging to the said prison, other than his share of such profits and advantages as shall arise from the baskets.

17.—That every prisoner shall be admitted to lodge in a cabin within the respective ward to which he or she shall belong, without fee or reward.

18.—That every prisoner shall be capable of being chosen in his turn an assistant, and be entitled to such allowances and other advantages which by the usage of the said prison such assistants have heretofore usually received and enjoyed.

Rules relating to the Revenue.

19.—That the seal belonging to the Common Side of the said prison be kept by the Master of the *King's Bench* Office (as of late it hath been;) and that the said seal be not affixed to any receipt or other instrument, till the same be approved and signed by the Marshal, with the consent of the prisoners of the said Common Side, signified under the hands of their steward and assistants.

20.—That if any prisoner on the Common Side of the said prison be charged with one action only, and such action be supersedable, that the same be superseded with the money belonging to the prisoners of the said Common Side, by their consent, signified under the hands of their steward and assistants, and signed by the Marshal; but in case any such prisoner be charged with more than one action, such actions shall not be superseded with the money belonging to the said prisoners, unless an Order for that purpose be obtained upon application to this Court in Term-time, or to the Lord Chief Justice or one other of the Judges of this Court in Vacation; and that no clerk to any of the Judges of this Court shall demand or take any fee or reward on account of superseding any such action or actions with the said prisoners money, or for any matter or thing relating thereto.

21.—That particular care be taken of all prisoners of the Common Side, who at any time shall happen to be sick; and that all proper necessaries shall be provided for them by the steward and assistants, and that they be reimbursed out of the first county money.

22.—That whatsoever debts are reasonably contracted by the steward and assistants, with the concurrence of the Marshal and Master of the King's Bench Office, for the necessary support of the poor prisoners, the same shall be entered by the steward and assistants for the time being in their house-books, and be repaid out of the next dividends.

23.—That no money shall be allowed to the steward and assistants, on pretence of their sitting on house-business, or adjusting differences between prisoner and prisoner.

24.—That any prisoner that comes into the said prison after the first day of Easter Term, shall have but one quarter of Midsummer dividends.

25.—That all the money brought to the prison by the basket-men and their boxes, as also such money as is brought for the prisoners use and relief by the boxes which come in at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide, be immediately divided to each prisoner in due shares and proportions, making the basket-men such reasonable satisfaction for their trouble as hath been heretofore usually allowed.

26.—That in case the said Marshal, in aid of the said steward and assistants, shall advance any money for superseding any action or actions against any prisoner or prisoners, as is hereinbefore directed, the said Marshal shall stand in the place of the said steward and assistants, and be accordingly reimbursed out of the next county-money.

Rules relating to the Officers on the Common Side, and to their Behaviour.

27.—That the prisoners of the Common Side have full power to make a free and open election of a steward every year; and that no prisoner who hath the liberty of the rules, or liberty to go out of the walls of the said prison, shall have any vote in the election of such steward, or of any other officers of the common side of the said prison; and that such steward so elected shall continue in the said office for the space of one year, unless removed upon application made to the said Court in Term-time, or in time of Vacation to one of the Judges thereof.

28.—That the steward of the Common Side of the *King's Bench* prison do keep a book or register, wherein shall be entered a copy of the Table of Fees hereinbefore directed to be hung up in the said prison, together with a copy of these Rules and Orders, and also a List of the several Charities belonging to the said prison, for the use of the said prisoners; and that every prisoner have liberty at all convenient times to inspect the said book, and also the steward's accounts.

29.—That if any prisoner be wronged or abused by the steward and assistants, or any of them, of his or her rights and dues, that he or she complaining to the Court in Term-time, or in time of Vacation to the Lord Chief Justice or to any of the Judges of the Court, or to the Marshal of the said Court, shall (provided they prove the cause of their complaints to be true) have a reasonable allowance made them for their costs and charges upon the said complaints, to be paid out of the next dividends belonging to the steward and assistants, or such of them who shall appear to have wronged such person complaining; or if the complaint prove groundless, that the person complaining do in like manner make satisfaction for such groundless complaint, out of his share of the next dividends.

30.—That

King's Bench Prison.

30.—That if any of the assistants or the steward shall mispend or waste, or by any ways or means lavishly consume the house-money, that the next assistants, or any succeeding them, may call the former to account for the same; and upon plain proof of the aforesaid mispent money, cause all the dividend or dividends, as well at the grate as otherwise, to be taken stopped and kept for reparation of the injury done to the prisoners in general, and to be put into the house-box, until equally divided to each prisoner in their due shares and proportions.

31.—That the steward and assistants do cause these Orders to be read every third Monday at the first basket, being the usual day for chusing the officers and settling the house accounts.

32.—That the Marshal of this Court, and all his officers and servants, and all prisoners within the said prison, do strictly and punctually observe and keep the several Rules Orders and Directions hereinbefore mentioned, under pain of incurring the utmost punishment that by law can be justly inflicted upon them respectively.

33.—Lastly. It is hereby strictly ordered and enjoined, That no clerk, officer, or servant whatsoever, belonging to any Judge of this Court, shall directly or indirectly demand receive or take any gratuity fee or reward whatsoever, for or by reason of any petition complaint or application that shall be made to any Judge of this Court, by any prisoner or prisoners of the said prison, pursuant to or founded upon any of the Rules and Orders hereinbefore mentioned.

R. RAYMOND.
JA. REYNOLDS.
E. PROBYN.

Appendix, No. 4.

ORDER of COURT, Easter Term 35 George III, for fixing the Rules or Bounds of the *King's Bench* Prison.

Monday next after the Morrow of the Ascension of our Lord, in the Thirty-fifth year of King George the Third.

King's Bench Prison. } UPON reading a Petition signed by several of the prisoners confined for debt in the *King's Bench* Prison; and upon hearing the Report of the Coroner and Attorney of this Court, respecting the said Prison and, the Rules thereof:

It is Ordered, That from and after the first day of Trinity Term next, so much of the Rule made on Friday next after fifteen days of Easter, in the thirtieth year of His present Majesty's reign, as establishes the Rules of the said Prison, be and the same is hereby repealed.

And it is further Ordered, That from and after the said first day of Trinity Term next, the Rules of the *King's Bench* Prison shall be comprised within the bounds following, exclusive of the public-houses hereinafter mentioned; that is to say, From Great Cumber's Court, in the parish of St. George the Martyr, in the county of Surrey, along the North side of Great Suffolk-street, as far as the Star Brewhouse; and from thence along the North-west side of Gilbert's-lane, to the Black Friars Road; and across the said road, along the North-west side of Webber-street to the Halfway-house; and from thence along the Western side of Barron's Buildings, and St. George's Row, to the Westminster Road; and then across the said road, and along the Western side of St. George's Mall; and from the pastry-cook's, at the West end thereof, directly across to the lamp-post on the footpath, near the watch-house, facing the Dog and Duck; and along the said footpath from the said lamp-post, to another lamp-post on the Eastern side of the said road, facing Key's nursery; and then along the whole of the said road leading by Prospect Place, to the Elephant and Castle; and from thence along the Eastern side of Newington Causeway, to Great Cumber's Court aforesaid.

And it is also Ordered, That the House of Correction for the county of Surrey, the New Gaol, Southwark, and the gaol now building for the county of Surrey, and the highways, exclusive of the houses on each side thereof, leading from the *King's Bench* Prison to the said gaols respectively, shall be within and part of the said Rules.

And it is lastly Ordered, That all taverns, victualling-houses, ale-houses, wine-vaults, houses or places licensed to sell gin or other spirituous liquors, and all places licensed for public entertainments, shall be excluded out of and deemed no part of the said Rules.

By The COURT.

Appendix, No. 5.

RULES and ORDERS for the Government of the *King's Bench* Prison, and TABLE of FEES; 1759—1760.

Further RULES and ORDERS, for the Government of the *King's Bench* Prison, made and signed the 10th day of May 1759, by the Lord Chief Justice and Judges of His Majesty's Court of *King's Bench*, whose Names are hereunto subscribed.

1. THAT the Marshal take order from time to time, that no person coming to the said prison do carry any pistol sword or other weapon into the same.

King's Bench Prison.

2. That if any prisoner on the master's side shall presume to extort garnish or other exactions, from any prisoner, in violation of former orders in that behalf, such offender shall (at the discretion of the Marshal) be turned over to the common side, for any time not exceeding one calendar month: And if any prisoner on the common side shall offend in like manner, he shall (at the discretion of the Marshal) be excluded from all shares dividends profits or right belonging to the prisoners on the common side, other than the share arising from the baskets, for any time not exceeding a fortnight.

3. That the Marshal take care that the doors opening into the great garden be locked up every evening as soon as it shall grow dark, and the other doors leading to the wards of the said prison, at nine o'clock every night.

4. That no prisoner take possession of any chamber within the said prison, without the consent of the Marshal, or pull down any partition, or make any other material alteration therein, without the like consent; and that the disposal and appointment of the chambers or rooms within the said prison be in the Marshal only (except so as not to turn any prisoner out of possession who shall be rightfully possessed of a chamber, without reasonable cause) and that every prisoner, on his or her discharge, deliver over to the Marshal or his Chamberlain, the key of his room or chamber, and all the Marshal's furniture therein.

5. That if any prisoner on the master's side shall refuse or neglect to pay his chamber-rent for the space of one month, it shall be lawful for the Marshal to turn such prisoner over to the common side, till the arrears of such rent be paid; and in such case the Marshal shall cause an inventory to be made of the prisoner's goods and effects, (if any) signed by two witnesses, and shall immediately deliver such goods and effects to such prisoner, and that the Marshal may detain the person of any prisoner, though discharged by the plaintiff, until his the prisoner's fees and arrears of chamber-rent (not exceeding one month) shall be paid and satisfied.

6. That no prisoner or other person shall, within the said prison, sell any victuals, wine, beer, ale, or other liquors, without the Marshal's leave; and if any prisoner or prisoners shall offend in the premises, it shall be lawful for the Marshal to turn him her or them over to the common side, for any term not exceeding one calendar month: and the Marshal is hereby required to take care that good order be kept by all persons selling by leave as aforesaid.

7. That the great room on the common side be reserved and kept in good repair for the use and benefit of the prisoners, for exercise and conversation, and that a fire be kept therein as often as the rigour of the season shall require; and that the two rooms over the same be reserved for such prisoners as shall be afflicted with any disease or other infirmity that may require such an accommodation.

8. That no person turned over to the common side for any of the offences aforesaid, or for nonpayment of chamber-rent, shall (during the time he shall remain there) be entitled to any share dividend or profit, other than the share of the baskets, or be capable of bearing any office, or of voting in the choice of any officer belonging to the common side, unless he shall become duly qualified for the same, according to the usage of the said prison, and the former Rules made in that behalf.

9. That these Rules, together with the former Orders and Rules for the government of the said prison, be fixed in the most public places thereof, for the use and inspection of the prisoners therein.

(Signed) MANSFIELD. M. FORSTER.
T. DENNISON. E. WILMOT.

A further RULE and ORDER for the better Government of the *King's Bench* Prison, —made and signed the 19th day of May 1760, by the Lord Chief Justice and Judges of His Majesty's Court of *King's Bench*, whose Names are hereunto subscribed.

THAT, as well for the safe custody of the prisoners within the said prison, and preservation of good order within the said prison, as for the punishment of such prisoners as shall be guilty of any misdemeanours within the said Prison, It is hereby Ordered, That in case any prisoner or prisoners in custody of the Marshal of the said prison, shall escape or attempt to escape out of the said prison, or shall be aiding abetting or assisting any prisoner or prisoners to make their escape out of the said prison, or shall sell or expose to sale, or procure to be brought into the said prison for sale, any victuals, wine or beer, ale or other liquors, without the leave of the said Marshal, or shall injure assault or abuse any other prisoner or prisoners, or other person or persons coming to the said prison on their lawful occasions, or shall blaspheme the name of GOD, or be guilty of swearing, or behaving themselves in a riotous or disorderly manner in the said prison, or contrary to the Rules and Orders already made for the better government of the said prison; that then, and in any of the said cases, it shall and may be lawful for the Marshal of the said prison for the time being to remove all or any such prisoner or prisoners so offending in any of the matters aforesaid, to the Gaol for the County of Surrey, in the Borough of Southwark, or to the Prison of the Marshalsea, there, or to the Bridewell within the said Borough, at the discretion of the said Marshal, for such time as the said Marshal shall adjudge and think adequate to the offence or offences for which such prisoner or prisoners shall be so removed as aforesaid, not exceeding the space of one calendar month for the first offence: And if any of the said prisoners shall offend a second time in the premises, or in any of them, that then, and in such cases, it shall and may be lawful for the said Marshal to remove all or any such prisoner

King's Bench Prison.

prisoner or prisoners so offending, to any of the above-mentioned prisons, at the discretion of the said Marshal, for such time as the said Marshal shall adjudge and think adequate for the said offence or offences, not exceeding the space of three months: And that this Rule, together with the former Rules and Orders of this Court made for the government of the said prison, be fixed in the most public place thereof, for the use and inspection of the prisoners therein.

(Signed) MANSFIELD. M. FORSTER.
T. DENNISON. E. WILMOT.

A TABLE of FEES to be taken by the Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison, in the County of Surrey, for any Prisoner or Prisoners Commitment, or coming in Gaol, or Chamber-rent there, or Discharge from thence, in any Civil Action, settled and established the 16th day of June, in the 33rd year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Second, and in the year of our Lord 1760, pursuant to an Act, "For the relief of Debtors, with respect to the Imprisonment of their Persons:"

Viz.		£.	s.	d.
FIRST,	To the Marshal, for every Prisoner committed on any Civil Action	0.	4.	8.
2d,	To the Turnkey on the Master's Side - - - - - - - -	0.	1.	6.
3d,	To the Marshal, on the Discharge of every such Prisoner - -	0.	7.	4.
4th,	To the Deputy Marshal, upon the Discharge of one or more Actions, Executions, or other Charge, and no further Fee, be there never so many Actions - - - - - - - - - -	0.	4.	0.
5th,	To the Clerk of the Papers, for the first Action upon the Discharge	0.	3.	0.
6th,	To the Clerk of the Papers, for every Action, Execution, or other Charge, to be paid on the Discharge - - - - - -	0.	0.	4.
7th,	To the Deputy Marshal, upon a Commitment of the Prisoner in Court, or at a Judge's Chambers, in any Civil Action, if carried to the *King's Bench* Prison - - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
8th,	To the Clerk of the Papers for the same - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
9th,	To the said Deputy Marshal, for a Surrender in Discharge of Bail, be there never so many Actions - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
10th,	To the Clerk of the Papers, for each Action upon such Surrender	0.	0.	6.
11th,	To each of the Four Tipstaffs, 2*s.* 6*d.* for each Prisoner's Commitment by the Court, and carried to the *King's Bench* Prison, in the whole - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	10.	0.
12th,	To the Tipstaff that carries any Prisoner committed at a Judge's Chambers to the said Prison - - - - - - - - -	0.	6.	0.
13th,	To the Marshal, for the use of Chamber, Bed, Bedding and Sheets, for each Prisoner, if provided by the Gaoler at the Prisoner's request, for the first night, in the Common Side of the said Prison	0.	0.	6.
14th,	For the like use every Night the Prisoner remains in custody after the first - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	0.	1½.
15th,	And if Two lie in a Bed 1*d.* each - - - - - - -	0.	0.	2.
16th,	For the like use of every Prisoner that goes on the Master's Side, for the first Night - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	0.	6.
17th,	For the like use every Night after the first - - - - - -	0.	0.	3.
18th,	And if Two lie in a Bed, 2*d.* each - - - - - - -	0.	0.	4.
19th,	And if the Prisoner finds his own Bed, Bedding and Sheets, (which the Marshal is in no sort to hinder him of) then he shall pay for Chamber-rent, to the Marshal, per week - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.

No other Fee for the use of Chamber, Bed, Bedding and Sheets, or upon the Commitment or Discharge of any Prisoner on any Civil Action.

THOMAS HOWARD.
ANTHONY THOMAS ABDY. MANSFIELD.
WILLIAM HAMMOND. T. PARKER.

Appendix, No. 6.

CHUM TICKETS: Notice of the Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison for regulating the Delivery of them; January 1, 1810.

THE Marshal begs leave to inform the inhabitants of this place, that applications for Chum Tickets must in future be made to Mr. Hill, who will deliver the same without any fee or reward, having a salary allowed him by the Marshal in lieu of any claim upon that account.

All the rooms having been put into a perfect state of repair, the Marshal hopes that no person will make any alteration whatever in any of them, as he will be under the necessity of depriving any person of his room who shall make any alterations therein, or injure or deface the same in any respect.

Many impositions having been practised by persons on quitting their rooms, on the score of claims for large sums of money for fixtures and improvements, the Marshal feels it his duty to give notice, That if any person is in future found out to have paid any thing on that or any other account, the person so found out shall be immediately turned out of his room, and have a chummage in one of the inferior rooms.

King's Bench, January 1, 1810. *Wm. Jones*, Marshal.

King's Bench Prison.

Appendix, Nos. 7 & 8.

Several RULES of COURT, respecting the Government of the *King's Bench* Prison.

Monday next after three weeks from the day of the Holy Trinity,
in the 19th Year of King George 3rd, 1779.

King's Bench Prison.—UPON full and mature consideration had here in Court: It is Ordered by the said Court, That any man may lawfully be turned out of his chamber for the following causes; that is to say, If such person lets his chamber to another, or does not reside there himself, or if such person might have taken the benefit of any Insolvent Act or the Lords' Act, or if he be charged by a friendly or collusive action where there is no real debt. By The COURT.

Trinity, 21st George 3rd, 1781.

IT is Ordered by the Court, That the Marshal of the Marshalsea of this Court shall permit no persons to enter into the prison, without their being first searched to see whether they have any spirituous liquors about them; and that he do not suffer the wives or children of any of the prisoners to lodge in the prison under any pretence whatsoever: And that the Marshal do prescribe in what manner and for how long time visitors shall be allowed to see or stay with the prisoners, according to the circumstance of every case, in his discretion.

By The COURT.

Hilary Term, 12th George 3rd, 1772.

UPON reading the Affidavit of Benjamin Thomas, Esq. Marshal of the Marshalsea of this Court and another, and also a Rule of His Majesty's Court of Common Pleas made in Hilary Term in the third year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the 2nd: It is Ordered, That the Marshal of the said Marshalsea, or his Deputy, may turn any prisoner out of his chamber to the common side of his said prison of the Marshalsea that shall refuse or neglect to pay his or her chamber rent for the space of three months; and that the Marshal, or his Deputy, shall in such case cause an inventory to be made of the prisoners goods and effects, (if any) signed by two witnesses, and shall immediately deliver such goods and effects to such prisoner: But the Marshal may still detain the person of such prisoner, though discharged by the plaintiff or in any other manner, until the arrears of his chamber rent shall be fully paid and satisfied. On the motion of Mr. Wallace.

By The COURT.

Friday next, after 15 days from the day of the Holy Trinity,
in the 19th year of King George the 3rd.

King's Bench Prison.—It is Ordered, That all prisoners, who have been or shall be in custody of the Marshal of the Marshalsea for the space of six months after they are supersedable, (although not superseded) shall be forthwith discharged by the said Marshal, out of the said prison of the Marshalsea, as to all such actions in which they have been or shall be supersedable: And that no prisoner shall be entitled to any room in the said prison by reason of seniority, except from the time of his being charged in the actions in which he is not supersedable. By The COURT.

Appendix, No. 9.

Copy of Justice's WARRANT, entitling a Prisoner to Relief on County Act;—and, Form of AFFIDAVIT made by Prisoners to entitle them to receive the County Allowance.

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53 Geo. III. c. 113.—To Mr. *W. F. Hope*, the Perſon appointed under an Act passed in the Fifty-third Year of the Reign of His Majesty King George the Third, to distribute certain Monies to the Poor Prisoners in the King's Bench and Marshalsea Prisons.

WHEREAS Application hath been made to me, one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of *Surrey*, by
a prisoner in the prison, praying an Order to be relieved according to the provisions of the said Act:

And whereas it appears to me that the said prisoner hath made oath according to the directions of the said Act, that is not worth Ten Pounds in all the world,

and that cannot subsist self, without the relief or assistance provided by the said Act:

And whereas it also appears to me, that the said prisoner is not supersedeable or entitled to be discharged under any Act for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors:

King's Bench Prison.

These are therefore to require you to pay to the said Prisoner the sum of Sixpence per diem, by weekly Payments, from the date of this Order, until such time as you shall be otherwise ordered according to law to forbear the said allowance.

> “ I now a prisoner in the *King's Bench*
> “ prison, do swear, That I am not worth Ten Pounds in all the world, and
> “ that I cannot subsist myself without the relief or assistance provided by
> “ an Act passed in the 53d year of the reign of His Majesty King George
> “ the Third, intituled, “ An Act for providing Relief for the Poor Prisoners
> “ confined in the Kings Bench, Fleet, and Marshalsea Prisons.”
> Sworn this day of 181
> before me,

Appendix, No. 10.

The RETURN of *William Jones* Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison, pursuant to the Orders of the Committee, containing an Account of the Average Amount of the Gross and Net Emoluments of his Office of Marshal within the Prison, from whatever source derived; and also of his Receipts, Disbursements and Expenses.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Profits on 540 butts of Porter, from the 31st December 1813 to 31st December 1814, at £. 1. 11 *s.* per butt - - - - -	837	—	—			
By D° 65 barrels of Ale, during the same period, at 10/4 per barrel - - - - -	35	2	8	872	2	8

N. B.—No Amber is sold in the Prison.

	£.	s.	d.
By Room-rent, average for 3 years - - - - -	391	—	—
By Commitments - - - d° - - - - - -	295	—	—
By Discharges - - - - d° - - - - -	272	—	—
By Coffee-Room rent - - d° - - - - - -	160	—	—
By Wine D° at the Tap - - - - - - -	52	—	—
By Bakers Rent - - - - - - - - -	40	19	—
By the Rules - - - - - - - - -	2,600	—	—
By Day-Rules - - - - - - - - -	223	12	—
By Declarations against Prisoners, 1 *s.* each - - -	19	2	—
By Rules to acknowledge - - - - - - -	75	—	—
	£. 5,000	15	8
To Salaries to Clerks - - - - - - - -	302	16	—
To Extra D° - - - - - - - - - -	50	—	—
To Turnkeys - - - - - - - - -	163	—	—
To Watchmen - - - - - - - - -	110	—	—
To Extra and occasional D° - - - - - -	40	—	—
To Oil and Candles - - - - - - - -	55	—	—
To Taxes, Rates and Assessments, exclusive of Income Tax	239	13	6
To promiscuous Disbursements - - - - - -	250	—	—
To Repairs - - - - - - - - -	75	—	—
To Lamplighting in and about the Prison - - -	45	—	—
To Coals - - - - - - - - - -	50	—	—
To Law Expenses, upon an average - - - -	150	—	—
To Stationary, Printing, &c. - - - - - -	50	—	—
To Stamps - - - - - - - - - -	150	—	—
	1,730	9	6
Net Profits - - - -	3,270	6	2
	£. 5,000	15	8

In addition to the above, I am entitled to 4 *d.* upon every Bail, and 4 *d.* upon every Judgment in the Court of King's Bench, which fee is received by the Master of the King's Bench Office for my use, and accounted for by him to me, amounting upon an average to about £. 320. a year, which is the only fee I am entitled to or receive *out* of the King's Bench Prison, besides what is above stated to be received *within* the prison.

N. B.—No charge is made in the above Account for losses by Escapes, &c. which are sometimes very heavy, and for which I am, as Marshal, personally answerable, there being in general from six to eight hundred prisoners for debt (and sometimes a great many more) in my custody, some of whom are charged with very large sums of money, sometimes so high as 40 or £. 50,000. each.

King's Bench Prison.

Appendix, No. 11.

The RETURN of *Josiah Boydell*, Deputy Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison; pursuant to the Order of the Committee, bearing date the 6th day of April 1815;—for an Account of his Annual Profit.

THE average revenue of my office of Deputy Marshal of the King's Bench Prison, arising from fees, amounts to from 350 *l.* to 400 *l.* a year.

April 9th, 1815. *Josiah Boydell.*

Appendix, No. 12.

The RETURN of *William Jones*, Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison; in obedience to an Order of the Committee, bearing date 6th April 1815;—for a Return of the supposed Annual Profits of the Clerk of the Papers.

Mr. William Hughes, the late Clerk of the Papers, being lately dead, and not having kept any account at all of the profits of his office, I am not able to give an accurate account of the whole revenue of the office arising from fees, as directed by the Order; but from the best calculation I am able to make, I believe they amount to between Six and Seven hundred Pounds a year.

10th April 1815. *Wm. Jones.*

Appendix, No. 13.

The RETURN of *William Jones*, Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison; in obedience to the several Orders of the Committee appointed to examine into the state of the Prison;—for an Account of his Annual Average Receipts; of the number of Married Women living with their Husbands; of the number of Children; of the number of Persons who have Rooms to themselves; and of the number of Prisoners within the Walls, and within the Rules.

THE annual average amount of receipts by me, as Marshal, upon Commitments, for the last three years, is about - - - - - - - - - £. 295.
The - - d° - - of Receipts upon Discharges, during the same period, about 272.

N. B.—This average would have been higher, if I had not voluntarily given up fees to at least 437 prisoners, who were discharged under the Insolvent Acts, between the 10th July 1813 and the 10th July 1814; as I gave positive orders not to take any fees whatever from such as were poor, and had behaved with propriety during their confinement.

In addition of giving up my fees, I put money into the pockets of many who were poor, and had a great distance to go to their homes.

The average annual amount of Receipts by the Deputy Marshal, on discharges, during the last three years, is about - - - - - - - - £. 140.
The - - d° - - of Receipts by the Clerk of the Papers, during the same period, is about - - - - - - - - - - - - 145

N. B.—These averages would have been higher, if the Deputy Marshal and Clerk of the Papers had not given up their fees in the same manner as I did as Marshal.

The Deputy Marshal and Clerk of the Papers have no fee upon Commitments.

The number of Married Women living with their Husbands in the prison at this time, about - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 80.
The number of Children, about - - - - - - - - - - 100.
The number of Persons who have Rooms to themselves, on paying out their Chums, about - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 80.
Number of Prisoners within the walls of the *King's Bench* Prison - - 440.
Number of - d° - within the Rules - - - - - - - - 220.

13th March 1815. *Wm. Jones*, Marshal.

King's Bench Prison.

Appendix, No. 14.

The RETURN of *William Jones,* Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison, of the whole Amount of Fees paid by each Prisoner on Commitment and Discharge; pursuant to the Order of the Committee.

		s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
	ON Commitment			0.	10.	2.
	Viz. To the Marshal	6	2			
This 4*s.* is not authorized by any Rule of Court, but has been paid time out of mind	Watchmen, Cook, Crier and Clerk of the Chapel, 1*s.* each	4	0			
		10	2			
	On Discharge of every Crown Prisoner, to the Marshal			1.	11.	8.
	On Discharge of every Debtor			0.	14.	8.
	Viz. To the Marshal	7	4			
	Deputy Marshal	4	0			
	Clerk of the Papers	3	4			
		14	8			

"In addition to this, the Turnkeys have been always entitled to 2*s.* 6*d.* for enquiring into the regularity of the Discharges; in the doing of which they have sometimes a great deal of trouble in ascertaining handwriting, &c. in order to prevent imposition.

Appendix, No. 15.

The RETURN of *William Jones,* Marshal of the *King's Bench* Prison, in obedience to the Order of the Committee, bearing date the 6th day of April 1815;—for an Account of the Number of Debtors and other Prisoners confined at any one time within the Walls of the Prison.

"IT being impossible for me to state the exact number of Debtors and other Prisoners that have been at any one time in the King's Bench Prison, on account of the daily and hourly fluctuation of persons coming in and going out; I can only state that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there never has been so many as 600 Prisoners within the Walls at any one time. In the latter end of the year 1813 and the beginning of the year 1814, when there was a greater number *in custody* than was ever known before, there would have been a much larger number within the Walls, if I had not had it in my power to give the liberty of the Rules to a great many persons gratis, and permitted a great many others to have the Rules upon very moderate terms; by which means I actually did relieve the Prison, and shall, I trust, always be enabled so to do whenever it happens to get very full.

Nearly the whole of the Prisoners confined in the King's Bench Prison are Debtors, the average number of those confined for Misdemeanors not exceeding five persons. There are only four Prisoners of that description now there, exclusive of the six that were concerned in the fraud upon the Stock Exchange.

10th April 1815. *Wm. Jones.*

Appendix, No. 16.

AN ACCOUNT of Inquisitions taken on the Bodies of Prisoners within the Walls and Rules of the *King's Bench* Prison; from 1st August 1804 to 31st July 1814, both inclusive.

	Within the Walls.	Within the Rules.
1804	11.	3.
1805	13.	6.
1806	9.	4.
1807	12.	7.
1808	12.	5.
1809	9.	10.
1810	11.	7.
1811	9.	5.
1812	4.	8.
1813 & 1814	6.	12.

King's Bench Prison.

Appendix, No. 17.

A LIST of the Benefactions and Charities received by Prisoners on the Common Side of the *King's Bench* Prison, who are entitled to receive the same on taking an Oath that they cannot command the sum of Five Pounds, and that they cannot subsist without the Charities of the Common Side of the Prison.

			£.	s.	d.
Lady-Day	Chamberlain of London		£.2	10	—
	Lady Bertie's gift		1	12	—
			£.4	2	—
Midsummer	Chamberlain of London		£.2.	10.	0.
Michaelmas	Chamberlain of London		£.2	10	—
	Mercers' Company		1	12	5
			£.4	2	5
Christmas	Chamberlain of London		£.2	10	—
	Fishmongers' Company	the gift of Mrs. Hackett	—	13	4
	D°	the gift of Mrs. Smith	—	3	4
	D°	the gift of Mr. Morse	—	3	4
	Grocers' Company	the gift of Sir John Peachey	—	5	—
	Salters' Company	the gift of Mr. Garrett	—	6	8
	D°	the gift of Mr. Horne	—	5	—
	Churchwardens of Saint Sepulchre's		—	10	—
			£.4	16	8

The gift of Lady Ramsay, 100 lbs. of beef, sent yearly at Christmas by the parishes of Allhallows Lombard-street, and Saint Andrew's Undershaft, alternately.

The gift of Mrs. Margaret Symcott, 65 penny loaves sent every eight weeks.

The Leathersellers Company, in bread 2*s.* 8*d.* and cash, sometimes 1*s.* sometimes 8*s.* quarterly.

The parish of Saint Dunstan's in the East, a fore quarter of beef, weight 27 stone 6 pounds, and a peck of oatmeal annually at Midsummer.

The Company of Parish Clerks, annually on the 1st November	1.	1.	0.
The Company of Drapers, 60 threepenny loaves annually in December	0.	15.	0.
The Company of Cutlers, annually in December, the gift of Mrs. Craythorne	0.	15.	0.
The gift of Thomas Dawson, Esq. paid annually by the parish of Saint Ethelburg, London	0.	9.	0.
His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury usually gives at Christmas	1.	0.	0.
The Saddlers' Company, a free donation of 2*s.* 6*d.* per quarter	1.	0.	0.

Exclusive of the above, they are entitled to divide amongst them all the casual donations, which may annually amount to about £. 10.; also all the money collected at the begging box, which they divide amongst themselves every night.

These form a kind of corporation, consisting of a mayor, clerk and assistant, who regulate their general concerns.

These common side prisoners were also entitled to £.60. a year, being the whole amount of the county allowance money before the passing of the late Act, by which the above allowance of £.60. is done away, and the county allowance to the *King's Bench* is now increased to £.700. a year.

Every person committed for debt into the *King's Bench* Prison on mesne process, becomes entitled to receive 3*s.* 6*d.* a week under this Act, on making an affidavit before a commissioner appointed for that purpose, and an order granted by a magistrate on that affidavit. If the prisoner should stay in prison long enough to be charged in execution, and to entitle himself to an allowance under the Lords' Act, the allowance under the County Allowance Act is discontinued.

13th March 1815. *Wm. Jones*, Marshal.

Fleet Prison.

Returns and Papers relating to

THE FLEET PRISON.

Appendix, No. 18.

RULES AND ORDERS, Hilary Term, 3 George II, 1729.

IT is Ordered, That all and singular the Orders or Rules hereunder wrote and established, pursuant to an Act of Parliament made and published in the second year of the reign of our said Lord the King, intituled, "An Act for the Relief of Debtors with respect to the "Imprisonment of their Persons," be well strictly and truly observed and kept, as well by the Warden of the prison of our Lord the King of the Fleet, and all his officers and servants, as by all prisoners who now are, or at any time hereafter shall be, committed to the custody of the said Warden.

And it is further Ordered, That this Rule, with all and every the Rules or Orders aforesaid, shall be fixed up in the Hall of the prison, for the use benefit and inspection of the prisoners detained in the aforesaid prison.

By The COURT.

CONSTITUTIONS and ORDERS renewed and established, touching the Government of the Fleet prison, by Sir Robert Catlyn, knt. Chief Justice of the King's Bench; Sir William Cordell, knt. Master of the Rolls; Sir James Dyer, knt. Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; Sir Edward Saunders, knt. Chief Baron of the Exchequer; and Others, by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal of England, bearing date the 3d day of June, in the third year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and afterwards reviewed and exemplified under the Great Seal, the 1st day of February in the 37th year of the same reign; and again declared and established as Rules and Orders by which the said prison of the Fleet should be governed, by Letters Patent granted to Sir Jeremy Whichcot, of the office of Warden of the Fleet, in the 19th year of the reign of King Charles the Second.

1. THAT it may be lawful to the said Warden, or his Deputy, to appoint so many of the household servants, as to either of them shall seem good, to open and shut the two outer gates of the Fleet, at such hours as the gates of Ludgate and Newgate are accustomed to be opened and shut; and the said persons to carry in their hands halberts, bills, or any other weapon, as shall seem good unto the said Warden or Deputy, within his precinct or liberty.

2. That it is and shall be lawful to the said Warden and his Deputy, to take order from time to time, that no person coming there do carry any weapon further than the Porter's Lodge there, be he a stranger or other, unless they be licensed so to do by the discretion of such as the same Warden shall appoint to keep the Gate there.

3. That it may be lawful for the said Warden or his Deputy, and so many of his household as shall be thought needful, to keep watch in harness or otherwise, within his precinct at all times, as he shall see cause for his better safeguard, if he shall suspect any prisoner within his custody to intend to make an escape.

4. That it may be lawful for the said Warden, to take order at all times for such money as shall be gathered at the box, or otherwise generously given to poor men there for the distribution thereof amongst them, if any contention shall arise; and that the said poor men shall always keep one key of the said box, and another key to be at the Warden's appointment.

Orders made by the Right honourable Sir Edward Herbert, knt. Lord Chief Justice of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas at Westminster, and the rest of the Justices of the said Court, Friday the 17th day of February anno Domini 1687, concerning his Majesty's prison of the Fleet.

5. If the prisoners on the master's side refuse, or be not able to pay their chamber-rent, then and in such case the Warden has liberty to turn them out of his or her chamber into the wards; but no prisoner whatsoever to be confined under the pretence of nonpayment of chamber-rent, but all of them to have liberty of walking in the fore-yard, hall, and cellar of the house in the day-time, without interruption; the ward gates in the day-time, to stand constantly open; and to be opened (*viz.*) at five o'clock in the morning in the summer, and seven in the winter.

And the said Justices do further Order, That the Warden shall be at liberty to shut the ward gates at nine of the clock at night in the winter-time, and at ten in the summer, if he so think fit, provided he keep a watchman constantly to attend there, to let out and in such persons as shall have occasion to go to the necessary-house, they returning as soon as he or she has done there.

6. That

Fleet Prison.

6. That the Warden shall not for the future detain or embezzle any prisoner's goods, but that the said Warden has liberty to detain the person of such prisoner or prisoners after they are discharged by their creditors, until all lawful fees and dues shall be fully paid and satisfied.

7. That the Warden shall with all convenient speed make and provide a confined room or dungeon in the wards, as it was before the great fire of London, for the confinement of persons endeavouring to make their escapes, or guilty of any other great misdemeanor, that the general quietness and liberty of the rest of their fellow-prisoners may not be restrained or suffer thereby.

And the persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, having reviewed and considered the said Rules and Orders, and being informed that a confined room was provided, according to the said last-mentioned Order, and that the same is boarded, wholesome and dry; Do Order and Declare, That the Rules and Orders before mentioned shall continue to be Rules and Orders for the better government of the *Fleet* Prison, and be observed accordingly.

And whereas some farther Regulations are proper and necessary to be made for the better government of the said prison, the persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, do further Order;

8. That the Warden of the *Fleet* do keep the chapel of the *Fleet* in good repair, and take care that Divine service be performed, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered therein at the usual and proper times, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England; and all prisoners are required to attend at the times aforesaid, and not to absent themselves from the said chapel without reasonable cause.

9. And it is hereby further Ordered, That no chaplain of the *Fleet*, or any clergyman being a prisoner within the walls or rules of the *Fleet*, do presume to marry any person without licence within the prison or rules of the *Fleet*, and that the Warden and his officers do use their utmost diligence to prevent all such marriages.

10. That the Warden do cause the stocks to be kept up in the said prison (as has been anciently practised) for the punishment of such prisoners as shall blaspheme the name of God, be guilty of profane cursing or swearing, or shall behave themselves in a disorderly manner.

11. That no prisoner do take possession of any chamber within the prison, but with the consent of the Warden, or his deputy, or pull down any partition, or make any other material alteration there, without the consent of the Warden or his deputy; but that the disposal and appointment of the chambers or rooms within the said prison be in the Warden, or his deputy, only, yet so as neither of them do turn any prisoner out of possession, who shall be rightfully possessed of a chamber, without reasonable cause: And that every prisoner, on his or her discharge, do deliver over to the Warden, his deputy, or chamberlain, the key of his chamber, and all the Warden's furniture therein.

12. That the Warden, or his deputy, may turn any prisoner out of his chamber to the common side, that shall refuse or neglect to pay his or her chamber-rent for the space of three months; and that the Warden, or his deputy, shall, in such case, cause an inventory to be made of the prisoner's goods and effects, (if any) signed by two witnesses, and shall immediately deliver such goods and effects to such prisoner; but the Warden may still detain the person of such prisoner, though discharged by the plaintiff, or in any other manner, until his arrears of chamber-rent shall be fully satisfied and paid.

13. That no prisoner, or other person, shall keep any public room within the said prison for selling any victuals, wine, brandy, punch, beer, ale or other liquor, without leave from the Warden or his deputy; and if any prisoner or prisoners shall offend in the premises, it shall be lawful for the Warden, or his deputy, to turn him her or them out of their room or rooms to the common side: And the Warden and his deputy are hereby required to take care that good order be kept in such public room or rooms as shall be allowed by either of them to be used as aforesaid.

14. That the Warden do take effectual care that every prisoner committed to his custody be conveyed to the prison of the *Fleet*, without being carried to any public victualling or drinking-house, or the private house of any tipstaff, officer or minister of the *Fleet*, or of any tenant or relation of his, without the free and voluntary consent of the person or persons so in custody, and that no garnish, or money, shall be extorted by any prisoner or prisoners from any person committed, for his coming into the said prison.

15. That the Warden do cause a table of the gifts and bequests made for the benefit of the prisoners of the *Fleet*, expressing the particular purposes for which the same are given, to be fairly writ in a plain and legible hand, to be hung up in the hall of the said prison; and that the Warden take care that no prisoner or prisoners, be deprived or defrauded of his her or their shares dues or dividends of the charities so given; and that no cellarman, turnkey, or other officer or servant of the Warden, shall have any share or part in any charity given to the prisoners, or bear any office in the said prison which may entitle him to any power in receipt or disposition of such charity.

16. That every prisoner who shall make oath before one of the Judges of the Court, from whence the process issued, upon which he or she shall be taken or charged, or before a commissioner empowered by such Court, that he or she is not worth five pounds, and cannot subsist without the charities belonging to the prisoners of the *Fleet*, shall immediately be admitted to all shares dividends and profits arising from such charities.

17. That two rooms marked 9 and 10 up the chapel stairs shall be kept as an infirmary for the use of the prisoners on the common side, who shall fall sick of such diseases as shall require

Fleet Prison.

require their being removed to prevent infection or for necessary care and relief; and that no prisoner shall be obliged to lie in the same bed with a diseased person.

18. That the Warden shall keep the prison-house and windows in good and necessary repair, and keep the drains, bog-houses, and dunghill, as clean and free from stench and noisomeness as possible.

19. That when any prisoner dies within the said prison, the said Warden shall forthwith give notice of such death to the coroner, that the said coroner may enquire, according to law, how such prisoner came by his death; and that the said Warden shall detain the body no longer than till the coroner's inquest have made their inquisition, which shall be done with all convenient speed, and that immediately afterwards the dead body shall be delivered to the prisoner's friends or relations, if they desire it, without fee or reward.

20. That the Warden do not sue or procure to be sued out any writ of habeas corpus to remove any prisoner from the prison of the *Fleet* to the prison of the *King's Bench.*

21. That the Warden shall keep a book in which all commitments shall be fairly entered in the words of such commitment, within fourteen days after any prisoner shall be committed.

22. That the Warden shall keep another book, containing the names of every prisoner actually brought into the *Fleet*, and taken into the house, with the name of the party at whose suit he shall be committed, and the time when the prisoner was brought to the *Fleet*, and received into the prison, specifying withal the Court or Judge by whose authority he shall be committed.

23. That every tipstaff, to whom any prisoner shall be delivered in custody at a Judge's chamber, shall keep a book, containing the name of such prisoner, the time when he was taken into custody, to be signed by such Judge's clerk; and such Judge's clerk shall keep another book, in which the like entry shall be made, signed by the tipstaff.

24. That the Warden shall keep a book, in which memorandums shall be entered of all declarations delivered to the turnkey or porter, against any prisoner in the *Fleet* Prison, containing the names of the parties, the cause of action, and the time when such declaration shall be delivered.

25. That the Warden shall keep a book, in which all discharges of prisoners shall be fairly entered, which entry shall specify how such discharge was made, whether by the plaintiff, by supersedeas, or otherwise, and such entry shall be made within five days after every discharge.

26. That the Warden shall keep a book, in which every writ of habeas corpus, upon which the prisoner shall not be committed or the custody altered, with the return of every such writ of habeas corpus, shall be fairly entered.

27. That all the books before-mentioned, except the tipstaff's book, shall be kept in the public office of the Clerk of the Papers of the *Fleet*; and that all persons shall have liberty to resort to them, and to take copies, as there shall be occasion.

28. That no clerk, officer, or servant whatsoever, belonging to any Judge of this Court, shall directly or indirectly demand receive or take any gratuity fee or reward, for or by reason of any petition complaint or application that shall be made by any prisoner or prisoners of the said prison, pursuant to or founded upon any of the Rules and Orders herein before-mentioned, or concerning any mis-government in the *Fleet*.

29. Lastly, That the said Warden and his officers do treat the several prisoners in his custody with all tenderness and humanity; and that such prisoners do behave themselves towards the Warden with that submission and regard which the law requires.

R. EYRE, ALEX. DENTON,
ROB. PRICE, J. FORTESCUE A.

Appendix, No. 19.

Sundry ORDERS for regulating CHUMMAGES, &c. in the Fleet Prison, 1793—1815

Copy of an ORDER to regulate the distribution of Rooms and Chummages.

Fleet Prison, 10th January 1793.

THE Warden having heard complaints that the distribution of rooms and management respecting the chummage in this prison have been frequently irregular, thinks it expedient to make the following Regulations, which are to commence and take place on the first day of Hilary Term next; *viz.*

That every prisoner on paying the commitment fee, shall (if there be no rooms empty) within twenty-four hours after, be chummed on the first room in rotation (beginning at N° 1 in the Hall Gallery) without fee gratuity or reward; and if such prisoner refuses to accept such chummage within that time, he shall not be entitled to any other chummage in the prison, until every prisoner, at the time junior to such prisoner so refusing, shall have been chummed.

No prisoner shall carry on any trade or calling in such room, without the consent and approbation of his chum, as well as of the Warden.

All the rooms on the master's side shall receive chums in rotation (except the rooms in the lower floor called Bartholomew Fair, and those called the Slip Rooms) but no room whatsoever shall receive a second chum until every room, except the said rooms in Bartholomew Fair and the Slip Rooms, and every room (except as before excepted) shall continue in the same progressive manner to receive any and every additional chum.

Every

Fleet Prison.

Every prisoner shall in like rotation succeed to a room; and if any prisoner refuses such room as shall fall to his or her turn by rotation, he or she shall not be permitted to hold any room, but lose his or her seniority, and from that time become a junior prisoner.

Any prisoner after having duly succeeded to a room, being desirous to exchange it for another, if there are more than one vacant, shall be allowed to exchange once only for the room that has been vacant the longest time, but if he or she refuse to accept such room he or she shall not be permitted to claim any other; and if there happens to be more than one prisoner desirous (and having the right) to exchange, the eldest prisoner shall have the prior right, but no prisoner can be admitted to claim who has not paid all arrears due on account of any former room which he or she has possessed.

If any prisoner shall receive any fee gratuity or reward, or the promise of any fee gratuity or reward, for resigning his claim in favour of any other prisoner, such prisoner so resigning shall lose his room, and be considered disqualified for possessing another.

The succession to the Slip Rooms shall be subject to the same rotation and regulations as other rooms on the master's side, except that they shall not receive a chum.

Women being prisoners must be chummed on such rooms in the possession of women prisoners as are nearest in rotation, notwithstanding the interruption of the general rotation, or of any right or claim to the contrary.

Copy of an ORDER for regulating the Price to be received by Prisoners choosing to be paid out of their respective Chummages; or letting their rooms to hire.

Fleet Prison, 16th Dec. 1796.

THE Warden having heard various complaints, respecting the unreasonable demands made by prisoners for chamber-rent and chummage, and the mischievous consequences arising therefrom, as also from the hiring of rooms to let again, has thought proper to Order, That from and after Saturday the 24th day of December instant, no person shall demand or receive, for the use of any chamber which he or she may let unfurnished to a fellow prisoner, any greater rent than eight shillings and three-pence per week.

Also that every or any prisoner, choosing to let his or her room furnished, shall not take or demand a larger sum than fifteen shillings and three-pence per week for such furnished room.

And further, That no prisoner shall possess or hold, either in his or her own name or in that of any other person, more than one chamber.

That any person, proved to the satisfaction of the Warden or his Deputy to have the possession of or the profits arising from the letting out to hire any other room than the one that has fallen to him or her by regular rotation or allowed claim after the said day, shall be deprived of his or her room or chummage.

And that any person subject by rotation to receive a chum in the room such prisoner is in possession of, and being desirous of enjoying the sole and entire possession of the same, shall not give pay or offer a greater sum than four shillings per week, for such forbearance to enter into the joint possession of such room.

And in like manner, no chum of such room shall receive or demand any larger sum than four shillings per week, for such forbearance to enter into the joint possession of the said room

And any person receiving any larger sum either directly or indirectly, than mentioned in this Order, shall in like manner be deprived of his or her room or chummage.

Copy of a RULE of COURT to determine how long Prisoners, being supersedeable, may retain their Rooms.

Hilary Term, in the 27th Year of the Reign of King George the Third.

In the Common Pleas.

IT is Ordered, That no prisoner in the custody of the Warden of the *Fleet* shall be allowed to continue in the possession of any room which he or she had become entitled to by reaſon of seniority, after he or she shall have been supersedeable for the space of one month; but that the Warden shall, after the expiration of such time, cause such supersedeable prisoner to quit possession of such room.

And it is further Ordered, That no prisoner shall be entitled to any room in the said prison by seniority, except from the time of his or her being charged in the action in which he or she is not supersedeable.

And it is further Ordered, That the Rule made in Hilary Term in the twentieth year of the reign of His present Majesty, for regulating the time that prisoners shall be allowed to continue in the possession of any room in the said prison after supersedeable, shall be and the same is hereby discharged.

By The COURT.

Fleet Prison.

Copy of a RULE of COURT to exclude Persons in Contempt from the Begging Grate.

Hilary Term, in the 36th Year of the Reign of King George the Third.

In the Common Pleas:

In the Matter of the *Fleet* Prison, Friday the 20th of November.

UPON reading a Petition bearing date this day, and presented to the right honourable Sir *James Eyre*, Knight, Lord Chief Juſtice, and the rest of the Judges of this Court, signed by Cornelius Rose, A. Castle, J. Hayes, John Tyler, Richard Drabble, William Mann, and Alexander Baddan, debtors on the common side of the said prison, entitled to the charitable donations thereof: It is Ordered, That from and after this day, all and every prisoner or prisoners who shall be charged with Writs of Attachment of Contempt issuing out of Courts of Equity (except for nonpayment of money only) shall not be entitled to or admitted to any shares dividends or profits arising from any Charities belonging to the Begging Grate of the said prison.

Copy of an ORDER for the better Regulation of the Coffee-room.

Fleet Prison, 22d August, 1809.

Mr. *Nixon*, having heard various complaints of the prisoners respecting abuses and Impositions heretofore practised in this room, has thought proper to order, That in future all Ale and Porter drank in this room be brought direct from the cellar head, and not from the bar; and that the same be paid for as under, viz.

Ale - -	Eight-pence	per pot; and smaller quantities in proportion.
Porter - -	Five-pence	

That no person or servant belonging to this room shall be permitted to cook, or cause to be cooked, any meat or vegetables at the public fires.

That no victualling be permitted in the small room adjoining the bar, but that the same be appropriated to the use of prisoners having private business to transact; and that any prisoner may remain therein for the space of one hour, but no longer if requested to leave it by another prisoner.

That this be cleared of company and shut up every night by twelve o'clock at farthest.

Copy of an ORDER for the better Regulation of the Tap-room.

Fleet Prison, 22d August 1809.

Mr. *Nixon*, having heard various complaints of the prisoners, respecting abuses and impositions heretofore practised in this room, has thought proper to order, That in future all Ale and Porter drank in this room, be brought direct from the cellar head, and not from the bar; and that the same be paid for as under, viz.

Ale - -	Eight-pence	per pot; and smaller quantities in proportion.
Porter - -	Five-pence	

That no part of this room be considered as private property, nor any cooking allowed at the public fire.

That this room be cleared of company and shut up every night by twelve o'clock at farthest.

Copy of an ORDER for the better Regulation of the Public Kitchen.

Fleet Prison, 22d August 1809.

Mr. *Nixon*, having heard various complaints of the prisoners, respecting abuses and impositions heretofore practised in this kitchen, has thought proper to order, That in future a Fire be kept herein for the use of the prisoners until two o'clock in the afternoon daily, for the purpose of dressing their victuals gratis: But that after the hour of two o'clock aforesaid the cook shall be allowed to make the following Charges and no more, for dressing meat and vegetables; viz.

For every Dinner consisting of Meat, Pudding or Pie separately - - - - - - - -	Two-pence.
For vegetables - - - - - - - - - -	One penny.

But when fish or other things are dressed, requiring butter or dripping to be found by the cook, then such things to be paid for accordingly.

And further, That the cook do keep the boiler constantly supplied with boiling water, from the hour of eight until ten in the morning, and from four o'clock until six in the evening, for the purpose of supplying the prisoners gratis with boiling water for their breakfasts and teas, not exceeding two quarts to each person for each meal.

Copy

Fleet Prison.

Copy of an ORDER for the prevention of Nuisances.

Fleet Prison, 28th July 1807.

IN consequence of various complaints having been made to the Warden, of dirt and filth being thrown about the prison-house and yard, he has thought it necessary to give this public Notice, That any person who shall hereafter sweep or throw any dirt, ashes, filth, or rubbish in any of the galleries, or on the stairs of this prison, or who shall caſt any filth in any part of the yard, or at any of the drains therein, except at the place appointed for the reception of such filth at the south end of the building, or who shall carry any water, either dirty or clean, up or down the front stairs, shall, if a prisoner, be deprived of his or her room or chummage, and, if a stranger, shall be locked out.

There have died within the Rules of the *Fleet* Prison during the last three years - - - - - - - -	6	Prisoners.
And within the prison - - - - - - - - - - -	13	Prisoners
Total - - -	19	

The average quantity of Porter drawn during the last three years - - - - - - - - - - - - -	870	Barrels.
And of Ale - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	63	Barrels.
Total quantity of Porter and Ale - - -	933	Barrels.

Appendix, No. 20.

RETURN of the Deputy Warden of the *Fleet* Prison, of the Number of Prisoners within the Walls and Rules thereof; and other matters.

IN obedience to an Order of the Committee appointed by the Honourable the House of Commons, for the Inspection of the *King's Bench*, *Fleet* and *Marshalsea* Prisons, dated the 17th day of March 1815; I beg leave to present the following Return.

Nicholas Nixon,
Dep. Warden, *Fleet* Prison.

There are in custody within the Walls of the *Fleet* Prison - -	209	prisoners.
And in the Rules - - - - - - - - - -	52	prisoners.
Making a Total in custody, of - - -	261	prisoners:

Of which number there are, for Contempts of Courts of Equity - - - - - - - - - - -	20	261.
On Informations at the Suit of the Crown - - -	12	
And for Civil Debts - - - - - - - -	229	

	£.	s.	d.
There is due and payable to the Warden, on the Commitment of every prisoner, who by his own desire shall go on the master's side of the prison, a fee of - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1.	6.	8.
And from every prisoner who shall go on the common side, not being entitled to partake of the poor's box, for a Commitment Fee -	0.	13.	4.
There is also due to the Warden, on the Discharge of every prisoner -	0.	7.	4.
There is also due to the Turnkey, on the Commitment of every prisoner not being entitled to partake of the poor's box - - - -	0.	2.	0.
There is also due to the Clerk of the Papers, on every Discharge of every Action - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	2.	6.

There is also due to the Clerk of the Papers, for his Certificate of the prisoner's Discharge, delivered to the prisoner himself (without any reference to the number of Actions with which he stood charged) a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.*; and for a Certificate to the Warden of such Discharge, a further fee of 2*s.* 6*d.*; but which two last-mentioned fees are never taken, the Certificates being considered useless to the prisoner.

THE Rules and Orders, settled for the government of the *Fleet* Prison, are contained at large in the printed paper hereunto annexed. page 252.

THE following is a List of the Donations and Charities applicable to the Relief of poor prisoners in the *Fleet* Prison; viz.

			£.	s.	d.
Hilary Term.	Last Seal Day - - - -	Court of Chancery - -	5	5	—
	The Day after Term, from the	Court of Common Pleas -	3	—	—
	- - - D° - - - - - - - -	Exchequer - -	—	6	8
Easter Term.	- - - D° - - - - - - - -	Common Pleas -	3	—	—
	- - - D° - - - - - - - -	Exchequer - -	—	6	8
Trinity Term.	Last Seal Day - - - -	Court of Chancery - -	5	5	—
	The Day after Term, from the	Court of Common Pleas -	3	—	—
	- - - D° - - - - - - - -	Exchequer -	—	6	8
Michaelmas Term.	Last Seal Day - - - - -	Court of Chancery - -	5	5	—
	The Day after Term, from the	Court of Common Pleas -	3	—	—
	- - - D - - - - - - - -	Exchequer -	—	6	8

Fleet Prison.

		£.	s.	d.
Lady-Day.	Leather Sellers' Company	—	4	—
	- - - D° - - - in bread	—	2	6
	Saddlers' Company	—	2	6
Midsummer.	Leather Sellers' Company	—	4	—
	- - - D° - - - in bread	—	2	6
	Saddlers' Company	—	2	6
Michaelmas.	Leather Sellers' Company	—	4	—
	- - - D° - - - in bread	—	2	6
	Saddlers' Company	—	2	6
Christmas.	Leather Sellers' Company	—	6	—
	- - - D° - - - in bread	—	2	6
	St. Bartholomew's Hospital	1	13	—
	The Parish of St. Ethelberg	—	9	—
	Saddlers' Company	—	2	6
	Drapers' Company	1	10	—
	Merchant Taylors' Company	1	10	—
	The Archbishop of Canterbury	1	—	—
	The Warden of the Fleet	1	1	—
Thomas Strickley, every three years, the payment of which will be due January 1817		2	—	—
Mrs. Fisher of Gray's-Inn-lane, executrix of Mrs. Misson, due Lady-day and Michaelmas		6	—	—
A Person unknown, every Easter Monday, from the Grange-Inn, Carey-street		2	—	—
Lord Somerville, on the 1st February yearly		5	5	—
There is (besides the above sums) annually collected at the Begging Grate, about		130	—	—
Total Amount of Donations to prisoners on the Poor's Box		183	7	8
Also a further sum provided by an Act of Parliament commonly called Mr. Henry Thornton's Act, but which sum is applicable to the relief of poor prisoners generally, and is not confined to the prisoners on the Begging Grate		500	—	—
Making a Total Amount applicable to the relief of poor prisoners of		£.683	7	8

There are now residing within the Prison, being the wives and children of prisoners - - - 50 Women and 77 Children.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
THE Warden has received, during the last three years, as follows; viz. for Commitment Fees, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	769	6	8			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	898	13	4			
Between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	708	—	—			
TOTAL	2,376	—	—			
Being on an average of the last three years, per annum				792	—	—
He has also received for Discharge Fees, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	202	0	8			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	250	1	4			
Between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	186	12	8			
TOTAL	638	14	8			
AVERAGE				212	16	3
He has also received for Chamber-rent, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	317	5	7			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	353	10	11			
Between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	331	0	5			
TOTAL	1,001	16	11			
AVERAGE				333	18	11
Being the Total average amount of Compulsory Fees to the Warden				1,338	15	2
He has also received from divers prisoners, on their being admitted to the Rules between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	835	3	6			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	1,235	—	—			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	885	7	—			
TOTAL	2,955	10	6			
AVERAGE				985	3	6

Also

Fleet Prison.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward				985	3	6
Also for Day Rules, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	133	—	—			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	166	17	—			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	135	7	—			
TOTAL	435	4	—			
AVERAGE				145	1	4
And in addition to the above sums, the Warden has an annual allowance from Government of £. 200, granted as a compensation in lieu of the rent of certain houses pulled down for building the prison wall				200	—	—
Also a Fee from the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex annually, of				18	4	4
TOTAL AVERAGE of Warden's Receipts, during the last three years				2,687	4	4
Out of which sum he has frequently sustained considerable losses by escapes and law charges thereon, and which during the time the present Warden has been in office, have amounted on an average to about per annum	300	—	—			
He also pays annually on the Prison and Dwelling-house, Taxes to the amount of about	368	11	—			
To the Chaplain and Clerk about	40	—	—			
Servants' Wages about	313	—	—			
Scavenger and Watchman about	43	18	—			
Lamps, Candles, Coals, &c. for Prison, Office and Lodge about	60	—	—			
Total Amount of DEDUCTIONS about				1,125	9	—
Leaving to the Warden a net ANNUAL INCOME of about				£.1,561	15	4

				£.	s.	d.
THE Clerk of the Papers has received, for Discharge Fees, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	£.100	5	6			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	116	17	6			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	100	15	—			
	317	18	—			
Making the Average of the only compulsory Fee to the Clerk of the Papers,				105	19	4
He has also received, for copies of Causes furnished indiscriminately to prisoners or other persons, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	70	2	—			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	92	13	2			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	79	7	6			
TOTAL	242	2	8			
AVERAGE				80	14	3
He has also received, for Returns to Writs of Attachment and Habeas Corpus (usually paid by the Attornies suing out such Writs) between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	348	15	—			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	403	11	4			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	321	18	8			
TOTAL	1,074	5	—			
AVERAGE				358	1	8
Also, for Day-Rules, between the 8th March 1812 and 7th March 1813	243	16	8			
Between the 8th March 1813 and 7th March 1814	305	17	10			
And between the 8th March 1814 and 7th March 1815	248	2	10			
TOTAL	797	17	4			
AVERAGE				265	19	1
Making the Total Average amount of the Clerk of the Papers income				810	14	4

Out of which sum he has to supply the office with books, stationary, &c. and also to pay for any occasional assistance he may need in the office.

Fleet Prison.

Appendix No. 21.

RETURN of the **Deputy Warden** of the Fleet Prison, of the Number of Prisoners on the Common Side, on 25 March last; of the greatest Number on the Poor's Box, &c.

IN obedience to an Order of the Committee appointed by the Honourable House of Commons, for the inspection of the King's Bench, Fleet, and Marshalsea Prisons, dated the 6th April 1815; I beg leave to present the following Return.

Office, Fleet Prison,
7th April 1815.

Nicholas Nixon,
Dep. Warden.

There were on the Common Side of the Fleet Prison, on the 25th March last, Twenty-three Prisoners.

The greatest number of Prisoners that have been on the Poor's Box, during the three months last elapsed, is seven, but there are now only four remaining. As to the years 1813 and 1814, as there is no account kept, it is impossible to state, with any degree of accuracy, the greatest number during those years, but, from casual observations, I have generally considered the average number of Prisoners on the Poor's Box to be about ten, prior to the passing of Lord Redesdale's Insolvent Act; but since that Act commenced its operation, it has reduced the numbers on the begging-grate, the average of which for 1814, I conceive, would not exceed seven or eight Prisoners.

Nicholas Nixon,
Dep. Warden.

Returns and Papers relating to

THE MARSHALSEA PRISON.

Appendix No. 22.

GRANT of the Office of Deputy Marshal and Keeper of the Prison of the *Marshalsea*.

To the Honourable the Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to enquire into the State of the *King's Bench, Fleet*, and *Marshalsea* Prisons.

GRANT of the Office of Deputy Marshal and Keeper of the Prison of the *Marshalsea*.

TO all Christian People to whom these Presents shall come: The honourable Sir *James Bland Burges*, of Beau Port in the County of Sussex, Baronet, Knight Marshal of His Majesty's most honourable Household, and Marshal of the Marshalsea thereof, also one of the Judges of the Court of the King's Palace of Westminster, sendeth greeting: Know ye, that I, the said Sir *James Bland Burges*, by virtue of the powers and authority to me given in and by His Majesty's Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *England*, much trusting to the integrity discretion and provident circumspection of *William Jenkins*, of High-street Southwark in the county of Surrey, gentleman, and for divers other good causes and considerations me hereunto specially moving, Have given and granted, and by these presents Do give and grant, unto the said *William Jenkins* the office of Deputy Marshal of the Marshalsea of the said Household, and Keeper of the prison of the Court aforesaid, and of the prisoners therein being, with full power and authority to do and execute all things which to the office of the Keeper of the prison of the aforesaid Court appertain to be done; together with all and singular the fees, wages, salary, rewards, profits, advantages and emoluments whatsoever to the said office belonging or in anywise appertaining, To have, hold, and enjoy the said office for and during the term of his natural life, if he shall so long well demean and behave himself, with all and singular the fees, wages, rewards, profits, advantages and emoluments whatsoever to the said office belonging or in anywise appertaining, in as ample manner and form as any other or others have held, enjoyed, occupied or received, or of right ought to have, hold, or receive in the said office. In witness whereof I, the said Sir *James Bland Burges*, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty-third day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eleven, and in the fifty-second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Third, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

J. B. BURGES, K. M. (L.S.)

Signed sealed and delivered by the within named, Sir James Bland Burges, in the presence of us,
Wm. Allen,
Henry Heward.
N° 11, Charles Street,
St. James Square.

Appendix,

Appendix, No. 23.

GRANT of the Office of Under Marshal and Keeper of the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts.*

TO all Christian People to whom these Presents shall come: The honourable Sir *James Bland Burges*, of Beau Port in the county of Sussex, Baronet, Knight Marshal of His Majesty's most honourable Household, and of the *Marshalsea* thereof; also one of the Judges of the Court of the King's Palace of *Westminster*; Sendeth Greeting: Know ye, That I the said Sir *James Bland Burges*, by virtue of the powers and authority to me given, in and by His Majesty's Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of England; much trusting to the integrity discretion and provident circumspection of *William Jenkins*, of High-street Southwark, in the county of Surrey, gentleman; and for divers other good causes and considerations me hereunto especially moving, have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant unto the said *William Jenkins*, the Office of Under Marshal of the Court of the Lord the King, of the King's Palace of *Westminster*, and of the Court of the *Marshalsea* of His Majesty's most honourable Household, and Keeper of the Prison of the Court aforesaid, and of the Prisoners therein being; with full power and authority to do and execute all things which to the Office of the Keeper of the Prison of the aforesaid Courts appertain to be done; together with all and singular the fees, wages, salary, rewards, profits, advantages and emoluments whatsoever to the said Office belonging or in anywise appertaining; To have hold and enjoy the said Office for and during the term of his natural life, if he shall so long well demean and behave himself, with all and singular the fees, wages, rewards, profits, advantages and emoluments whatsoever, to the said Office belonging or in anywise appertaining, in as ample manner and form as any other or others have held, enjoyed, occupied or received, or of right ought to have hold or receive in the said Office. In witness whereof, I the said Sir *James Bland Burges* have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twelfth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eleven; and in the Fifty-second year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the third, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

J. B. BURGES, K.M. (L.S.)

Signed sealed and delivered by thewithin
named Sir *James Bland Burges*, in the
presence of us,
Mary Amelia Head, of Beau Port Sussex, Spinster.
Julia Octavia Burges, of Beau Port Sussex, Spinster.

Appendix, No. 24.

TABLE of FEES, to be taken by the Goaler or Keeper of the *Marshalsea Prison*, in *Southwark*, in the County of Surrey; for any Prisoner or Prisoners committed, on coming into Goal, for Chamber-rent there, or Discharge from thence, on any Civil Action; settled and established the 17th day of May, in the Fifth year of the reign of His present Majesty King George the Third, 1765, pursuant to Act of Parliament, entitled, "An Act for the Relief of Debtors, with respect to the Imprisonment of their Persons."

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
TO the Knight Marshal, upon the Discharge of every Prisoner, charged with one or more Actions - - - - - -	0.	1.	8.
To the Keeper, for his care and safe custody of every Prisoner, upon the Discharge of such Prisoner, on the first Action -	0.	4.	8.
To the Keeper, upon the Discharge of such Prisoner, charged with one or more Actions, upon the first - - - - - -	0.	3.	8.
To the Surgeon or Apothecary, on the Discharge of every Prisoner, charged with one or more Actions - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
To the Chaplain, on the like Discharge - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
To the Turnkey, on the Discharge of every Prisoner on the first Action - - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	1.	6.
To the Turnkey, on the Discharge of such Prisoner, charged with one or more Actions after the first - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
To the Clerk, for entering the Discharge of a Prisoner, on one or more Actions - - - - - - - - - - -	0.	1.	0.
To the Keeper for the use of a Bed, Bedding, and Sheets for every Prisoner, if found by the Goaler at the Prisoner's request, for the first Night, on the Master's Side - - - - - -	0.	0.	6.
And every Night after the first Night - - - - - -	0.	0.	3.
And if Two lie in a Bed, 2d. each - - - - - - -	0.	0.	4.

No other Fee for the use of Chamber, Bed, Bedding, or upon the Commitment or Discharge of any Prisoner in any Civil Action.

W. RICHARDSON, MANSFIELD,
A. BISHOP, C. PRATT,
L. HOWARD, T. PARKER.

Marshalsea Prison.

Appendix, No. 25.

RULES and ORDERS of the New Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts.*

1.—IT is hereby Ordered, That the gates of this prison be opened every morning during the year at eight, for the admission of visitors and others, and to continue so till the hour of ten in the evening, (except Sundays, and all other fast days, when they will be closed during the time of divine service, from eleven till one o'clock in the afternoon;) at locking up for the evening, the keys to be returned to the Deputy Marshal, and to remain with him, unless any prisoner should be taken ill and require the assistance of the surgeon, or on any other special purpose.

2.—That the cells of the Admiralty prisoners be also unlocked at eight in the morning during the year, and their allowance then delivered to them. Visitors to be admitted between the hours of twelve and four in the afternoon; and a short time before dusk, the cells to be finally locked up for the night.

3.—That the tap of the said prison remain open for the accommodation of the prisoners, till the hour of eleven, when they are to retire to their own rooms.

4.—That all debtors at the time of their being brought into custody, or immediately after, be furnished with a chum ticket, in the regular order of the chum list, without any favour or partiality whatever; and that no fee or reward be taken by any of the established officers of the prison for that purpose.

5.—That the Steward of the common side do keep a regular account of all charities and donations received by him, and of their just and equal division; and also, that he submit such account to the inspection of any of the members thereof, and to the Deputy Marshal, whenever he is required so to do.

6.—That the prisoners intending to claim the benefits of the common side, do apply to the Steward to prepare the necessary affidavit; and upon their making oath before the Deputy Marshal, that they are proper objects, they be entitled to participate therein. And those prisoners also, who are desirous of receiving the county allowance of sixpence per diem, will be ordered the same on the usual days of payment, on their conforming to the rules mentioned in the Act of Parliament.

7.—That the Chaplain or his Deputy perform divine service every Sunday and fast day during the year; and deliver a sermon, or other suitable discourse to his congregation. He will also be expected to visit the Admiralty prisoners, when required; and to administer the sacrament to such as are inclined to receive it. The debtors on the common side, and the Admiralty prisoners, are at all times to attend the chapel, unless in case of illness or other sufficient cause is shewn for their absence.

8.—That the Surgeon do visit the prison once a day, if necessary, or oftner if required; and report when it is proper to remove sick persons into the infirmaries. He is also to keep a diary of their complaints, and the progress they make to convalescence and recovery; and he is on every Court day, to prepare a weekly statement of his patients, and their complaints, for the inspection of the Judge or Judges of the said Courts, and to sign the same with his own name. No fee or reward to be taken by him or his assistants, for extra attendance or otherwise.

9.—That no filth or rubbish of any kind be thrown about the yards of this prison; or any other nuisance or dilapidations be committed on any of the walls or staircases of the prisoners rooms; and that the dust bin be emptied once a week in summer at least; and the privies as often as required.

10.—And lastly, That all strangers, visitors and others, who shall be found behaving themselves improperly, such as fighting with or assaulting any prisoner, or intending to create a riot or disturbance in the said prison, shall be locked out, and not be admitted into the interior thereof, till satisfactory assurances are given for their better conduct in future.

The above, with all the other Returns ordered, is most humbly submitted to this honourable Committee, by

Wm. Jenkins, Dep. Marshal.

Marshalsea Prison.

Appendix, No. 26.

An ACCOUNT of the Amount of Fees received by the Deputy Marshal of the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts*, for the last Three years, ending Christmas 1814; distinguishing each year.

——	Fees received under the Printed Table.	Fees received as Clerk of the Papers, &c.	Total Amount.
1812.	*£. s. d.*	*£. s. d.*	*£. s. d.*
By amount of fees received - - -	77. 19. 2.	89. 6. 6.	167. 5. 8.
1813.			
By amount of fees received - - -	93. 15. 2.	87. 0. 9.	185. 3. 11.
1814.			
By amount of fees received - - -	65. 2. 4.	47. 6. 9.	112. 9. 1.

Wm. Jenkins, Dep. Marshal.

Appendix, No. 27.

An ACCOUNT of the Amount of Salaries, Fees, and other Emoluments of the Turnkeys and other Officers of the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts*, for the last Three Years, ending Christmas 1814; distinguishing each Year.

OFFICERS.	Salaries.	Fees.	Emoluments.	Total.
1812.	*£. s. d.*	*£. s. d.*	*£. s. d.*	*£. s. d.*
First Turnkey - - - -	80. — —	19. 16. —	- - -	99. 16. —
Second Turnkey - - - -	70. — —	- - -	- - -	70. — —
First Watchman - - - -	60. — —	- - -	- - -	60. — —
Second Watchman - - -	55. — —	- - -	- - -	55. — —
1813.				
First Turnkey - - - -	80. — —	24. 17. —	- - -	104. 17. —
Second Turnkey - - - -	70. — —	- - -	- - -	70. — —
First Watchman - - - -	60. — —	- - -	- - -	60. — —
Second Watchman - - -	55. — —	- - -	- - -	55. — —
1814.				
First Turnkey - - - -	80. — —	17. 12. —	- - -	97. 12. —
Second Turnkey - - - -	70. — —	- - -	- - -	70. — —
First Watchman - - - -	60. — —	- - -	- - -	60. — —
Second Watchman - - - -	55. — —	- - -	- - -	55. — —

Wm. Jenkins, Dep. Marshal.

Marshalsea Prison.

Appendix, No 28.

A LIST of FEES received by the Deputy Marshal of the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts*, performing the Duty of Clerk of the Papers, &c. of the said Prison.

		£.	s.	d.
	TO petitioning the Court to grant a Rule to compel the Plaintiff to perfect his Declaration against the Prisoner - - - - - - - - -	0.	2.	0.
	The like, to compel the Plaintiff to proceed to Trial -	0.	2.	0.
	The like, to compel the Plaintiff to commit the Prisoner in execution, preparatory to his suing for Sixpences - - - - - - - - -	0.	2.	0.
	Copies of Causes - - - - - - - -	0.	3.	6.
These Fees are generally paid by the persons applying for the Habeas Corpus.	Conduct Fee for taking a Prisoner before any jurisdiction in London - - - - - - -	0.	10.	6.
	The like, for taking Prisoners to the Assizes as evidence, or otherwise - - - - - - -	1.	1.	0.

The Expenses of sueing the Plaintiff for Sixpences under the Lords' Act, and moving the Court to obtain Prisoner's discharge when supersedeable, are in almost all cases paid by the Charities.

Wm. Jenkins,
Dep. Marshal.

Appendix, No. 29.

A LIST of LEGACIES and other CHARITABLE DONATIONS to the Common Side of the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts.*

	Weight, &c.	£.	s.	d.
THE Legacy of Frederick Ashfield, Esq. sent weekly by Mr. William Railton of Clifford's Inn, consists of -	32 lbs. meat.	—		
The Legacy of Mrs. Mary Simcott, sent every eight weeks by the Chamberlain of the city of London, consists of -	65 penny loaves.	—		
The Legacy of Sir Thomas Gresham amounts to £. 10. per annum, and is paid by the Chamberlain of the city of London quarterly, at the rate of - - - - -	- - -	2.	10.	0.
The Gift of the Leathersellers Company amounts in money and bread to £. 1. 6*s.* 8*d.* per ann. is paid quarterly, and consists of - - - - - -	32 penny loaves.	0.	4.	0.
The Legacy of Mr. Jacobs is paid at Easter by the Proprietors of the Grainge Inn Carey-street, and amounts to - - - - - - - - - - -	- - -	2.	0.	0.
The Legacy of Mr. John Marks is £. 1. and the Interest of £. 21. 18*s.* 10*d.* Old South Sea Ann. is paid annually by the Company of Mercers about April, and amounts to - - - - - - - - -	- - -	1.	13.	1.
The Legacy of Mr. Robert Ramston is paid annually about Christmas, and amounts to - - - - -	- - -	1.	0.	0.
The Legacy of William Roper Esq. is paid annually by the Company of Parish Clerks about October, and amounts to - - - - - - - - - -	- - -	1.	0.	0.
The Legacy of Mr. John Gaythorn is paid annually by the Company of Cutlers about Christmas, and amounts to	- - -	0.	15.	0.
The Legacy of Mr. Thomas Dawson, is paid annually by the Churchwardens of St Ethelburgh Bishopsgate, about Christmas, and amounts to - - - -	- - -	0.	9.	0.

(continued.)

Marshalsea Prison.

Legacies, &c.—*continued.*	Weight, &c.	£. s. d.
The Legacies of Mrs. Lettice Smith and Mr. Arthur Moses are paid annually by the Company of Fishmongers, about Christmas, and amount to - -	- - -	0. 6. 8.
The Legacy of Mr. Thomas Garrard is paid annually by the Company of Salters, about March, and amounts to	- - -	0. 6. 8.
The Legacy of Mr. Thomas Carter, consists of a quarter of beef and a peck of oatmeal, is sent annually by the churchwardens of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, about Lady-day; the general quantity is from - - -	35 to 36 stone.	—
The Legacy of Mr. J. Stokes, sent annually by the Company of Drapers, about December, and consists of -	60 threepenny loaves.	—
The Legacy of Mr. Ralph Carter, consists of beef annually, proportioned to the number of prisoners on the common side; is sent alternately by the churchwardens of Allhallows Lombard-street, and by the churchwardens of St. Andrew Undershaft, about Christmas; the general quantity is from - - - -	80 to 100lbs.	—
The Legacy of Mrs. Margaret Deane, consists of beef and bread annually, proportioned to the number of prisoners on the common side; is sent by the Company of Ironmongers, about November; the quantity varies from - - - - - - - - - -	2 stone 6 lbs. and 18 loaves, to 1 stone 6½ lbs. and 10 loaves.	—
The Donation of the Archbishop of Canterbury is paid annually at the palace of Lambeth, about Christmas, and amounts to - - - - - - - -	- - -	1. 0. 0.
The Donation of the Lord Steward of His Majesty's Household is paid annually at the Board of Green Cloth, some time after Christmas, and amounts to -	- - -	5. 5. 0.
The Donation of the Steward of the Court of the King's Palace of Westminster is paid on the Court day immediately preceding Christmas, and amounts to -	- - -	1. 1. 0.
The Donation of Lord Somerville is paid annually at Messrs Herries & Co. about February, and amounts to	- - -	5. 5. 0.
The Donations and fines of the different officers of the Court of the King's Palace of Westminster are paid on the Court day immediately preceding Christmas; the amount varies, according to circumstances, from -	- - -	9. 7. 6. to 10. 17. 6.

There is also Bread sent occasionally from the Police Office Union Hall, which is distributed generally among the poorer classes of prisoners, whether on the common side or not, who have large families.

Wm. Jenkins,
Dep. Marshal.

Appendix, No. 30.

A LIST of LEGACIES for the discharge of Debtors confined in the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts.*

THE Legacy of Henry Allnut, Esq. (commonly called the Oxford Charity) for the release of Debtors whose respective Plaintiffs will accept of a small Sum in full satisfaction for Debt and Costs, amounts to - - - - - - - - - -	£. 100. per ann.
The Legacy of Dr. John Pelling, for the like purpose, amounts to -	£. 9. per ann.

There are also various Charities in the Metropolis, appropriated to the discharge of Poor Debtors and for the payment of their Fees, upon application being made for that purpose, accompanied by a Certificate from the Keeper.

Wm. Jenkins,
Dep. Marshal.

Note.—Since Mr. Burton Morice has presided as Judge of the *Palace Court,* he has paid particular attention to the different Charities belonging to this Prison; and a regular Account of all those received are presented to the Court, upon oath, twice every year.

Marshalsea Prison.

Appendix, No. 31.

An ACCOUNT of the Number of PRISONERS confined in the Prison of the *Marshalsea* and *Palace Courts*, distinguishing the Debtors from the Admiralty Prisoners; and also, the Number of WOMEN and CHILDREN residing in the said Prison, on the 5th day of April 1815.

DEBTORS.	Male.	Female.	TOTAL.
Master Side Debtors - - - - -	50	4	54
Common Side D° - - - - -	8	2	10
	TOTAL - - - -		64

ADMIRALTY PRISONERS in Solitary Confinement.	Officers.	Seamen.	TOTAL.
Offences.			
For a breach of the Articles of War - -	1	- -	1
The like, of the 2d and 29th Articles of War -	- -	1	1
Attempting to commit an unnatural Crime -	- -	2	2
Contempt and Insolence to superior Officer, &c.	- -	2	2
Enticing part of the Crew to desert the Service	- -	1	1
			7
Not in Solitary Confinement:			
Disobedience of Orders, Embezzlement, &c. -	1	- -	1
Causing the Death of a Boy, by stabbing him	1	- -	1
Contemptuous Conduct to superior Officer -	1	- -	1
	TOTAL - - - -		10

Number of WOMEN and CHILDREN:

Women - - - - - -	24
Children - - - - - -	32
TOTAL - - - -	56

Wm. Jenkins, Dep^y Marshal.

Marshalsea Prison.

Appendix, No. 32.

REGULATIONS (of the Prisoners own making) for maintaining good Order in the *Marshalsea Prison*; 8 August 1814.

Marshalsea Prison, 8th August 1814.—IT being considered highly expedient that the Regulations heretofore acted upon, for maintaining good Order in this Prison, should be revised and amended, the following RULES were submitted to the Collegians for their opinion and approbation, and unanimously adopted.

Article 1st.—THAT every male member, on his entrance, be required to pay into the hands of the secretary for the time being, the sum of seven shillings, and females four shillings and sixpence; this fee will entitle them to an immediate chummage, and the benefits arising from the ale-room. The above fees, as soon as collected, are to remain as a fund in the hands of the secretary, and only to be disposed of as occasion may require, to furnish the college with mops, brooms, coals, candles, sand, &c. and a daily newspaper.

Article 2d.—That a court be held as heretofore, every Monday at twelve o'clock at noon, and that every male prisoner be required to attend, or in default thereof forfeit and pay to the secretary the sum of three-pence, to be applied in aid of the general fund, or disposed of in such other manner as a majority of the collegians shall think proper; and that every member who shall attend such meeting be seated, and if any person shall be found standing on the tables or forms, or shall by talking or otherwise interrupt the business then going on, will be fined nine-pence, such fine to be disposed of as aforesaid; and that no member depart the room until the business of the day is gone through, without permission of the committee to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned.

Article 3d.—That a secretary or accountant shall be elected on the last Monday in every month, by the unanimous voice of the collegians or a majority thereof, who shall be allowed the sum of seven shillings a week for his trouble; for which he is to perform the following duties; viz. To receive all fees and fines; to pay all bills due from the college; to submit an account of the receipts of fees fines and disbursements, every Monday in the ale-room, for the inspection of the collegians; to see that the ale-room be kept clean, and supplied with coals, candles, &c.; to see that a daily newspaper be supplied for the use of the ale-room; to collect impartially all fines which may become due, an account of which is also to be submitted to the college every Monday; to see that the privies are washed out every morning; and on quitting his office, to resign his books and accounts, and the balance he may have in his hands, to such persons as may be appointed to succeed him; to inspect the staircases, and other parts of the college, every Sunday morning, to see that the same are kept clean.

Article 4th.—The master of the ale-room, to be appointed in like manner as the secretary, and be paid for his services the sum of seven shillings a week, and to perform the following duties:—To clean the ale-room out every morning at eight o'clock in the summer months, and nine o'clock during the winter months, the summer months to be considered as commencing from the first day of April and continued to the first day of October, the winter months from the last-mentioned day to the first day of April; to have the water boiling from half past eight till half past ten o'clock every morning, and from half past four o'clock till seven in the evening; to put the fire out, and shut up the room every night at eleven o'clock, except on a club night, and to see that the ale-room is thoroughly scrubbed every saturday; to have the ale-room ready every club night at seven o'clock, and be particular not to admit boys into the room on that night; to keep the door closed during a song being sung; to report all fines attaching to the ale-room, to the secretary; to collect the bills which may be due from the ale-room, for coals, &c. and deliver the same to the secretary.

Article 5th.—That a committee, to consist of nine members of the college, be appointed every calendar month, by the unanimous voice of the collegians, or a majority thereof, five of whom shall constitute a quorum, and shall decide all matters in dispute which may happen to arise in the college between the members thereof; such committee to be convened upon the application of any collegian to the secretary, and if when called upon they do not attend, each of them so neglecting to be fined sixpence; that after the parties accusing and accused, have been heard, together with such witnesses as they may think necessary to adduce in support of the charge or defence, as the case may be, the committee are to deliberate thereon, and form such decision as to them appears to be the justice of each particular case; and having formed their judgment, the parties to the charge are to be called in and informed of such decision, which is to be considered final.

Article 6th.—That no other court than that mentioned in the second Article be held, except upon the application of any collegian to the secretary for that purpose, and depositing in his hands one shilling, as a remuneration for his trouble; such court, consisting of the committee only, to assemble the next day at twelve o'clock at noon.

Article 7th.—That any person not abiding by the decision of the committee, as named in the 5th Article, shall pay a fine of two shillings and sixpence, and on nonpayment or refusal to pay the same, his name shall be stuck up in the ale-room, and other most conspicuous places in the college, and underneath written the description of offence with which he is charged.

Marshalsea Prison.

Article 8th.—That no person sent to Coventry be allowed to go into the ale-room, nor participate in any of the advantages belonging thereto; and any collegian found associating with, speaking to, or holding any communication whatever with the person so sent to Coventry, shall be fined sixpence for each offence he may commit; and if the person or persons offending against this article, shall refuse or decline to pay the fine so incurred by him or them in manner aforesaid, he or they shall be sent to Coventry for such a period as the committee for the time being shall think fit.

Article 9th.—That on the last Monday of every month, the secretary and master of the ale-room be nominated; and in case there shall be a new candidate for either of these offices, the election to take place on the first Wednesday in the following month.

Article 10th.—That a scavenger be appointed in like manner as the master of the ale-room, and be paid for his services five shillings per week; for which he is to keep all the avenues belonging to the college constantly clean, and to wash the privies every morning, and clean out the water cistern and butts at least once a week.

Article 11th.—That every collegian is to be entitled to a room according to seniority; and that supersedeables shall be first chummed upon, beginning with the eldest, and so going downwards to the youngest; and if it shall so happen, that after all the supersedeables are chummed upon, and chummages are still wanting, then and in that case the youngest collegain is to be chummed upon next after the last supersedeable, and so upwards, if necessary.

Article 12th.—That any member of the college taking away the property of another from his person, or otherwise, without consent, be, upon conviction, fined 2*s.* 6*d.*; and that it shall be lawful for the committee to issue their warrant or summons to search the room or rooms of the person or persons suspected, so as to enable them to discover the property taken away; and that the person or persons resisting such search be fined one shilling.

Article 13th.—That any collegian throwing water upon another, or creating any noise or disturbance after twelve o'clock in the evening, be fined one shilling.

Article 14th.—That any collegian using obscene, opprobrious or offensive language, or challenging another to fight, be fined two shillings and sixpence; and for striking a blow, five shillings.

Article 15th.—That every collegian preferring a charge against another, which shall, in the judgment of the committee, be considered wanton or frivolous, be fined one shilling.

Article 16th.—That any collegian interrupting the committee in the discharge of their duty, be fined one shilling; and refusing to pay the same, be sent to Coventry.

Article 17th.—That a court of requests be held as often as occasion may require, to take into consideration the most effectual method of recovering small debts; and that after both parties have been heard, the committee shall deliberate thereon, and, having formed their judgment, shall levy such sum or sums from the debtor, to be paid into the secretary's hands by instalments or otherwise, as the committee shall think proper; and that the same be afterwards paid over to the person or persons entitled thereto.

Article 18th.—That, in addition to the foregoing articles, every collegian offending against the regulations written underneath, be fined in the sum set opposite to the description of offence he shall have committed; viz.

Any person swearing, or using abusive or obscene language, in the ale-room, be fined - - - - - - - - - - -	0	0	6
Any person singing an obscene song on a club night, until after the hour of nine o'clock, be fined - - - - - - - -	0	0	9
Any person smoking in the ale-room, between the hours of eight and ten o'clock in the morning, or twelve and two o'clock in the afternoon, will be fined - - - - - - - - - -	0	0	6
Any person throwing water or any other thing out of the window of their respective rooms, or ashes or dirt in any part of the yard or passages except the place apointed for the same, be fined - -	0	0	9
Any person defacing the staircases, or dirtying the seats or committing any nuisance in the privy, will be fined - - - -	0	0	9
Any person making water in any part of the yard, excepting the place appropriated for the same, will be fined - - - - - -	0	0	9

Article 19th.—That in the event of any case occurring deserving punishment, which is not provided for by any of the foregoing articles, it shall be in the discretion of the committee to add such article or articles applying to the nature of the offence as they may think proper, so as to guard against the same in future.

Article 20th.—Any person drawing water from the first boiler of water, before the same is boiling, will be fined - - - - - - - - - 0 0 6

Examined with the Ale-room Book,

Wm. Jenkins.

[*Here to follow the* Plans of the New City Prison for Debtors.]

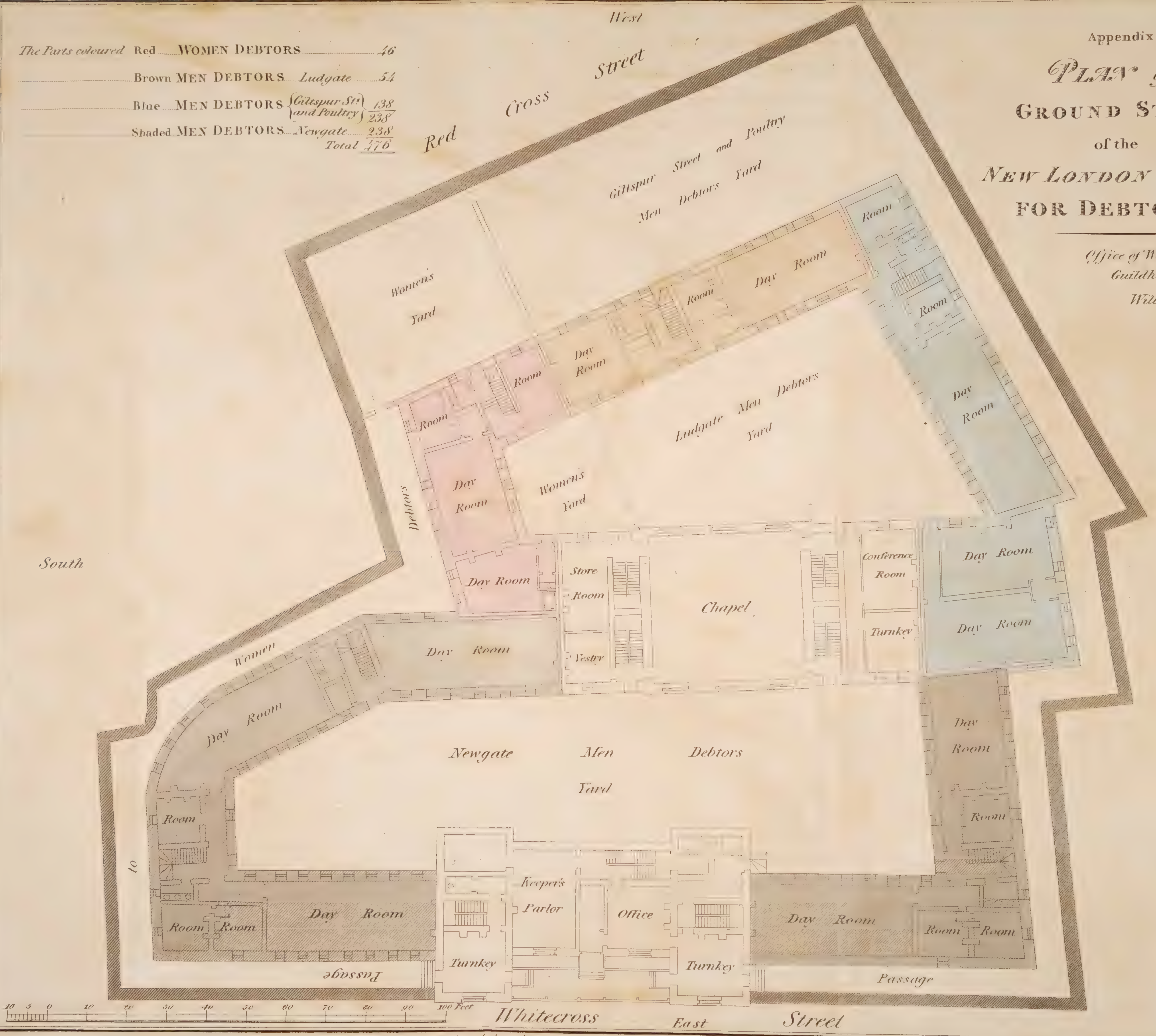
Appendix No. 33.

PLAN of the GROUND STORY of the NEW LONDON PRISON FOR DEBTORS.

Office of Works Guildhall } April 1815

William Mountague

The Parts coloured	Red	WOMEN DEBTORS		46
	Brown	MEN DEBTORS	*Ludgate*	54
	Blue	MEN DEBTORS	*Giltspur St. and Poultry*	138
				238
	Shaded	MEN DEBTORS	*Newgate*	238
			Total	476



West
Red Cross Street
Giltspur Street and Poultry Men Debtors Yard
Women's Yard
Room
Day Room
Room
Room
Day Room
Room
Room
Room
Day Room
Ludgate Men Debtors Yard
Day Room
Women's Yard
Debtors
Day Room
Store Room
Vestry
Chapel
Conference Room
Turnkey
Day Room
Day Room
South
North
Women
Day Room
Day Room
Newgate Men Debtors Yard
Day Room
Room
Room
10
Room
Room
Day Room
Keeper's Parlor
Office
Day Room
Room
Room
Turnkey
Turnkey
Passage
Passage
10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Feet
Whitecross East Street

152. *Ordered, by the* HOUSE OF COMMONS *to be printed, 1st May 1815.*

James Basire sculp.
Luke Hansard & Sons, Printers.

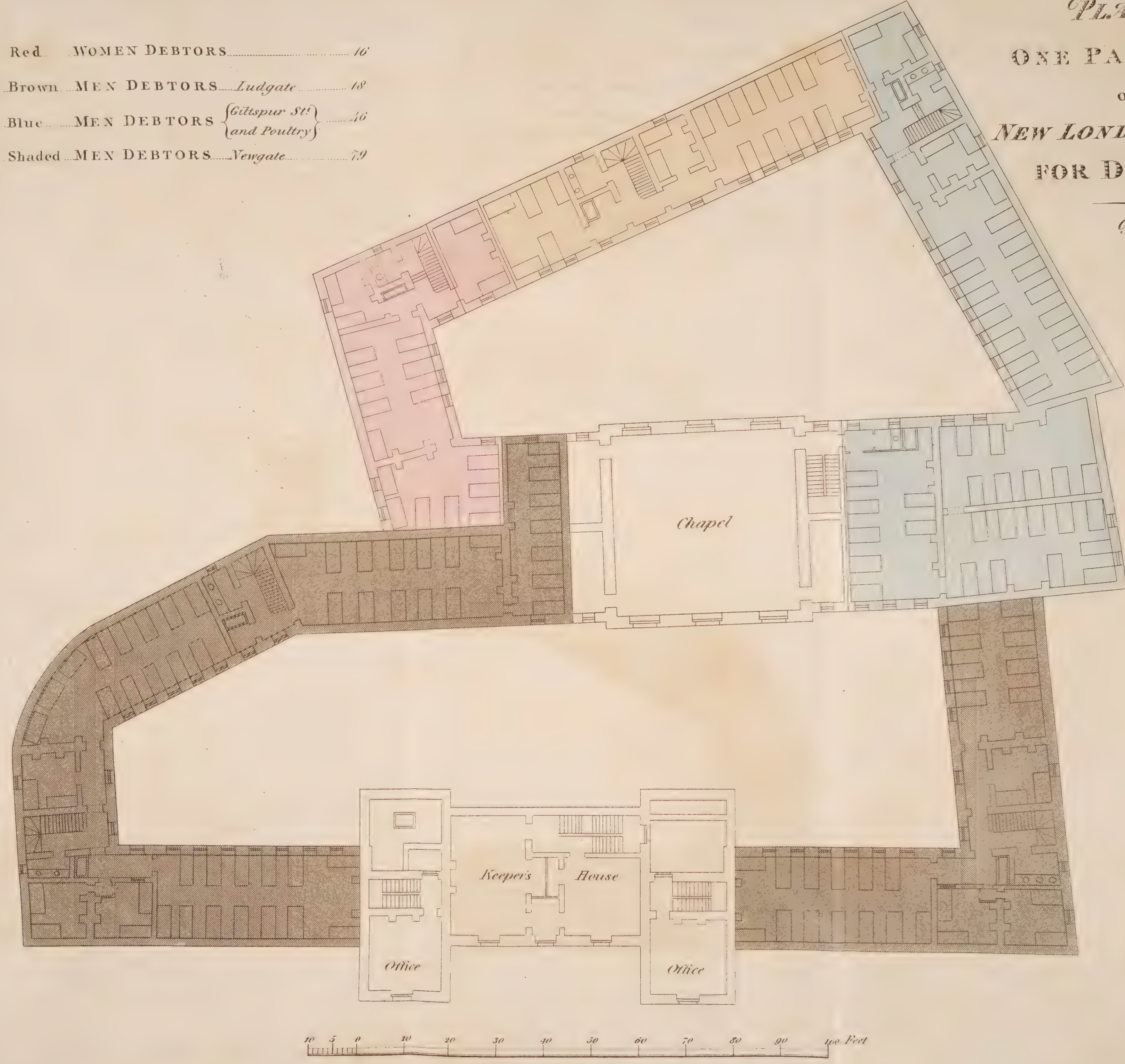
Appendix No. 33.

PLAN of the ONE PAIR STORY of the *NEW LONDON PRISON,* FOR DEBTORS.

Office of Works, Guildhall, } *April 1815.*

William Mountague.

The Parts coloured			
Red	WOMEN DEBTORS		16
Brown	MEN DEBTORS	*Ludgate*	18
Blue	MEN DEBTORS	*Giltspur St.* *and Poultry*	46
Shaded	MEN DEBTORS	*Newgate*	79


West
South
North
Chapel
Keeper's House
Office
Office
10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Feet
East

152. *Ordered, by the* HOUSE OF COMMONS, *to be printed, 1st May 1815.*

James Basire sculp.

Luke Hansard & Sons, Printers.

REPORT

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON

THE

PRISONS

WITHIN THE CITY OF LONDON AND
BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

1.—NEWGATE, &c.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
8 *May* 1818.

THE REPORT - - - - - - - - p. 3.
MINUTES OF EVIDENCE - - - - - - - - - p. 11.
THE APPENDIX:—*Viz.*—Accounts and Papers relating to Newgate, to Giltspur-street and Borough Compters, and to Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals - - - - - - - - - p. 207.
Aberdeen Bridewell, with two Engravings - - - - p. 239.

REPORT.

THE COMMITTEE appointed to examine into the State of *Newgate*, and the other PRISONS within the City of *London* and the Borough of *Southwark*, and to report their Observations, together with the MINUTES OF THE EVIDENCE taken before them from time to time, to The House; and to whom the Petition of the Prisoners for Debt in *Whitecross-street* Prison was referred; and who were instructed to inquire into the state of *Dartmoor* Prison, and to report whether it is capable of receiving Convicts;——HAVE examined the Matters to them referred; and agreed upon the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee, in pursuing the investigation of the state of the London Prisons, have considered it their duty to inquire how far the Buildings, in their original size and construction, seemed fitted and adequate for the purposes to which they are appropriated; how far those that appear in their present shape unfit and inadequate may be rendered suitable by certain alterations or additions; or if that degree of improvement which would be most desirable should appear likely to lead to an extent of outlay which at present may be deemed inexpedient, to consider what change in the internal arrangements they can venture to recommend as likely to tend to amelioration. With these views, and with an anxious wish to examine minutely the economy of the Establishments, and the treatment of the prisoners, Your Committee have visited all the prisons subjected to their inquiry, and have summoned before them all those persons from whom they hoped to derive practical and useful information; and the Report which they have now the honour of submitting to the House, is founded on their best attention to that evidence, or on that conviction, which a personal inspection has authorized.

In visiting these receptacles of wretchedness and crime, scenes so painful and repulsive to the feelings, Your Committee, while bound to recollect that certain hardships are necessary and unavoidable, were not unmindful of their duty by failing to remark any neglect or abuse, or improper severity. With these views and sentiments, Your Committee have proceeded; and to render their Report as perspicuous and distinct as possible, they have considered it advisable to give the result of their inquiry on the prisons separately, and in the order in which they were visited, and evidence was examined. The first in order, therefore, is Newgate.

1.—NEWGATE.

Newgate Prison.

THE Prison of *Newgate*, according to the present arrangement, is divided into stations, yards, day-rooms, and wards. Your Committee are of opinion that the original plan of this prison was defective, and the accommodation inadequate for the purposes to which it is now applied. When it

Newgate Prison.

it is considered that this prison is destined not only for the reception of a great many persons who are directly committed, but for the reception of a still greater number who are removed thither for trial, added to which, a considerable number who are under sentence of imprisonment, and an accumulation of convicts, neither the extent of the accommodation, or the distribution, are such as your Committee can consider adequate or consistent with that *classification* which Your Committee deem of vital importance.

It may be proper here to introduce certain observations, which, as they apply generally to all the prisons, may, if explained, obviate the necessity of repetition when reporting on others; and may be referred to as general principles adopted by the Committee; and if they appear self evident or trite, they will the more readily be granted as axioms.

The whole system of enlightened criminal jurisprudence is devised for the *prevention* of crime, not of abstract punishment. Punishment, therefore, as regards society, is not vindictive, but subservient, and instrumental, in reference to *prevention*. While the hardships of a prison, and the pains of law, may be wisely and justly inflicted, it is our duty to take care that no more is done or suffered than is conducive to the real object; and still more, that we take care that the means we employ to check may not contribute to the increase of crime: that persons guilty of petty offences, from the repetition of which they might be deterred by the first detection, and the consequent shame and alarm, shall not by our means be utterly polluted, hardened, and accomplished in depravity, by a forced communication with the most abandoned and irreclaimable. To prevent this obvious danger and unspeakable evil, the attention of Your Committee has been peculiarly directed to what they have termed *classification*, not merely as regarding the separation of the *untried* from the *convicted*, but looking to a much more salutary and extended system. It is quite unnecessary to urge the numberless shades of depravity amongst the untried prisoners; but even an innocent person may unfortunately be so situated; and what is a case of every day's occurrence, an individual accused of some very venial offence is doomed to be the companion, mess-mate, and almost bed-fellow, of the most abandoned miscreant. Even *after* conviction the evil proceeds; for if we can imagine one unhappy culprit who is disposed to regret and repent, he must have his feelings harrowed up or hardened amidst such a mass of vice and corruption.

CLASSIFICATION,

Therefore, Your Committee consider of the utmost importance; and for this desirable object *Newgate* offers few facilities. It is ill constructed, deficient in space, and is now unhappily destined to contain, on the approach of every sessions, nearly double the number of prisoners which it ought to contain. Hitherto a large proportion of the prison has been occupied by convicts under sentence of Transportation, amounting to 150 persons at the time the Committee visited the prison; and all the accused on the male side are necessarily crowded together without distinction or discrimination; and, under the denomination of Fines, all under sentence of imprisonment, whatever the nature of their offence, are mingled together. The removal of the transports, therefore, immediately after every sessions, seems indispensably necessary; such a relief might afford some prospect of a more unobjectionable arrangement of the prisoners, and seems absolutely requisite to afford room for the numbers removed thither for trial, and, in the opinion of Your Committee, it is a measure which ought to be most strongly pressed on the attention of Government. The House may

Vide App. Mr. Brown's Evidence, p. 24. 46. 75. 196.

may judge how far Your Committee is justified in strongly remonstrating on this point, by adverting to the enumeration of wards, and specification of the dimensions. It seems sufficient to remark, that in wards of 38 feet by 15, it has very lately been necessary to confine from 30 to 40 persons, and at former periods from 50 to 60. Those prisoners, who in the language of the prison are denominated *fines*, that is, those who have been sentenced to imprisonment for various offences, are in a worse situation than the convicts. They are generally more crowded together, and eat, sleep, and pass the day in the same ward, having access to an open yard. There are 15 condemned cells, each 9 feet by 7, which open into the press-yard, having two day-rooms appropriated to the prisoners under sentence of death. Your Committee regret, that, from the construction of the prison, they cannot suggest a satisfactory alteration in this objectionable part of the prison, which seems so unsuitable to the situation of the unhappy men. It has so happened, that from 60 to 70 under sentence of death, have been confined in this part of the prison at one time. Under such circumstances, it has been found necessary that some should sleep in the day-rooms, while in many of the cells three were confined. And although it appears in evidence, that three were frequently so confined in one cell at the express request of the prisoners themselves, yet it is a practice which cannot be vindicated. It must be obvious to every mind, that such an accumulation of unhappy wretches, with such a deficiency of room and means of separation, is utterly irreconcilable with the solemn situation of those who are placed there to prepare for death. Your Committee observed with pain, that children of the tenderest years were confined in the cells with persons of mature age and more confirmed habits of crime.

Newgate Prison.

p. 27.

p. 29.

As Your Committee have already expressed, in strong terms, their opinion as to the expediency of removing the convicts, they abstain from enlarging on the total want of employment, and other circumstances so productive of evil. In the crowded state of the prison little could be attempted or effectively enforced with the men. The benevolent exertions of Mrs. Fry and her friends, in the female department of the prison, have indeed, by the establishment of a school, by providing work, and encouraging industrious habits, produced the most gratifying change. But much must be ascribed to unremitting personal attention and influence. On the male side, attempts to give employment have been baffled by the dishonest practices of those on whom the experiment has been made; and in a prison so constructed as Newgate, and where there is so frequent a change of prisoners, it is difficult to propose a remedy. Among the *fines*, however, something might be attempted with a prospect of success, for some are actually now employed as tradesmen.

BOYS SCHOOL.

The youthful offenders under sixteen years of age, untried and convicted, are placed together in what is called The School. They are kept apart from the men convicts, and have the use of one of the yards for two hours a day, at which time the men are locked up.

To have a school at all seemed a step towards improvement; but a school so constituted must suggest doubts as to its moral beneficial effects. At present the school is regulated and taught by a convict. The crime of the individual so employed (as appears from the evidence) is not of that nature which is likely to affect or encourage the propensity which these youthful offenders have indulged; but if the benefit of impressive moral instruction is desired, little can be hoped from a convict of any description; even if he is sincere he cannot have influence; for the boys are aware of

Newgate Prison. the degraded position of their teacher. If a school is to be maintained, a person of unblemished reputation should be appointed; and there ought to be a separation of the profligate from the less contaminated.

CLEANLINESS.

In adverting to the cleanliness of a great part of this prison, Your Committee have a favourable report to offer: The yards and wards appeared on their visitation to be remarkably clean, and various members of the Committee who have individually visited the prison at other times, give a no less favourable report. The windows of the sleeping wards are p. 65. large, and are regularly opened, which secures free circulation of air. But there being no fire allowed in these chambers, there is not sufficient ventilation to remove dampness from the room, and bedding, especially in the winter months; there was not, however, the slightest taint of offensive smell in the sleeping wards of the convicts when Your Committee visited these wards. But Your Committee could not but remark a great neglect of personal cleanliness amongst the prisoners generally; and they are of opinion that suitable regulations ought to be adopted to enforce attention to what is so essential. The Committee cannot give the same favourable report of the wards appropriated to the fines; it is obvious that the same system of cleanliness which is adopted in the sleeping wards of the convicts is there impracticable, and cannot be remedied but by lessening the number confined in the prison, and that by a removal of the convicts, or a change in the appropriation of this jail to so many various purposes.

THE BEDDING.

The prison-allowance of bedding consists of a hempen mat, worked with a portion of tar, to prevent the lodgment of vermin, and to exclude damp, and two rugs. This allowance seems sparing and inadequate. In pp. 31, 32 winter not less than three rugs should be allowed. Your Committee feel difficulty in venturing to suggest any further improvement, as any hardship experienced from the nature of the mat is, perhaps compensated by its cleanliness, and the absence of many inconveniences attending bedding of another description. It may, however, be proper that the bedding should be more exposed to the air than at present, or suitable measures be taken to remove the damp from the bedding, which, by the evidence of the p. 65. surgeon, is injurious to the health of the prisoners, removed from the heated day-rooms, and subjected to the chill of condensed perspiration; but this regulation had not been complied with, as Your Committee did not find above twenty mats in the whole prison on the male side; but each prisoner that has a bed of his own has permission to bring it into the prison. Your Committee refrain giving any opinion on the fitness of the bedding for the prisoners, as from the crowded state of the prison the whole subject is one of great difficulty.

FOOD.

Formerly, the provision-allowance was one pound of beef, without bone, delivered twice a week, and cooked by the prisoners themselves at their own time and pleasure, and daily sixteen ounces of brown bread. The filth created by the cooking, and the improvidence of the prisoners, added to a conviction of the propriety of giving an allowance of vegetables, induced the Court of Aldermen to adopt a new system. A kitchen has been provided, a cook appointed, and an alteration of the diet established. The allowance now is a pint of good gruel for breakfast; for dinner, alternately,

Newgate Prison.

alternately, half a pound of beef, (which when cooked weighs about six ounces) and a quart of soup, in which the meat was boiled the previous day, with barley, and a variety of vegetables. This change has been of essential benefit, and has been generally approved of. And Your Committee, on mature deliberation, and availing themselves of the best information they have been able to acquire, consider the allowance and description of food wholesome in quality, and sufficient in quantity for persons in such circumstances. Many of Your Committee have tasted the bread, and several have tasted the soup and gruel, and are perfectly satisfied that they are good of their kind. The bread, in particular, which is baked at Giltspur-street Compter, by a person employed by the Court of Aldermen, was, when the Committee visited the prison, of a good and wholesome quality.

CLOTHING.

As there is no prison-dress adopted in Newgate, the observations of Your Committee can only refer to the clothing belonging to the prisoners themselves; among these it appears that in various instances there has been very great deficiency of clothing; many are committed to prison half naked, others are in the habit of selling their shoes and other parts of their dress; but for such as may not be guilty of such practices, and who are destitute, there does not appear to be any regular source from whence they can be relieved. There is what is called the Sheriffs Fund, which is totally inadequate, and therefore from time to time the Court of Aldermen order a distribution of clothing. Your Committee cannot take upon them to recommend any general regulation for clothing. Your Committee having been assured that there is no indisposition on the part of the Court of Aldermen to grant relief, and trusting that they will order all cases of real necessity to be reported to them, or to be relieved by their officers, it must rest with them to order the supplies, which must be regulated altogether by circumstances.

pp. 17, 40.

pp. 68, 69.

TREATMENT.

On this head there has been no complaint from any quarter which has reached the knowledge of Your Committee. It is their duty to state a late improvement in this particular: It had been the invariable practice, up to the present year, to put the accused in irons immediately on their commitment to Newgate; this was deemed necessary to guard against escape, and had, in some instances, been the means of detecting those attempting to escape in disguise. The jail Committee of Aldermen, however, have resolved on making a fair experiment of indulgences; and having issued an order to exclude visitors from the interior of the prison (with certain humane and reasonable exceptions) the irons have been taken from all the untried; and Your Committee trust that a regulation so consonant with the situation of an *unconvicted* person may be fully justified by the result.

INFIRMARY.

Although liberal provision is made, and the utmost care and attention are paid to such as in consequence of sickness are placed in the Infirmary, Your Committee regret that here, as in other quarters, there is no distinction of persons. The untried, the convicts, and even the condemned, are all placed in the same ward, and this follows from the same imperious cause, want of sufficient accommodation; when other improvements are made, this evil, Your Committee expect, cannot fail to be rectified.

GENERAL

Newgate Prison.

GENERAL HEALTH.

It is most gratifying to Your Committee to state, that although numbers are committed to this prison in a state of disease, yet on referring to the lists in the surgeon's book, and comparing the numbers with the amount of those in confinement, though the number of sick in the last year has been p. 60. great, the proportion of deaths is much less than Your Committee were prepared to expect. Great praise remains due to Mr. Box for his attention and medical skill. Your Committee have to regret that great inconvenience has arisen from the crowded state of the infirmary, both on the male and female side, although considerable improvement has recently taken place. Your Committee observe that there is no room appropriated for the recep- p. 63. tion of prisoners on their commitment, so that they may be inspected by the surgeon before they are mixed generally in the yards; and they suggest the propriety of no person being so admitted until he has been inspected by the surgeon, as they remark that no less than sixteen persons p. 61. were admitted with fever during the seven months of the year 1817. And they cannot help also observing, that a great inconvenience arises from the Middlesex commitments being frequently so late at night that the surgeon p. 63. has not the opportunity of seeing the prisoners before they are placed in the yards.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

Public Service is performed on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, p. 19. and private on other days, to the condemned. One service only was performed on Sundays, but the Court of Aldermen have caused their orders to be enforced, namely morning and evening service on Sundays. The Ordinary visits the prison daily, to give religious instruction to such persons who profess a desire to receive it, and by order of the Court of p. 22. Aldermen to administer the sacrament once a month. Your Committee remark, that the chapel is calculated to contain 350 persons, while, during the period of Your Committee's inquiry, no less than four hundred and sixty prisoners were at one time in the prison; in order then to remedy this inconvenience, they would suggest the propriety of dividing the service on Sunday, the morning being appropriated for the male, and the evening for the female prisoners; and that no persons within the prison shall be permitted to absent themselves, unless their particular religion prevents them from attendance on worship of the Church of England.

ON the whole, therefore, it appears to Your Committee, that so far as the construction and extent of Newgate will permit, the treatment of the prisoners generally is such as meets with their approbation. The prison fare does not appear worse, or more severe, than is consistent with such an establishment, or injurious to the health of the prisoners.

The attention of a former Committee was directed to the crowded state of Newgate, which at that time was the place of confinement, not only for criminals but also for debtors. The new prison in Whitecross-street has relieved Newgate of the debtors; yet, with the conviction of the importance of classification, and separation, which Your Committee cannot too frequently, or too strongly, press on the attention of the House, they consider the accommodations of this prison as still altogether inadequate.

When the local position of Newgate is considered, and the great expense already incurred by the city of London, it cannot be expected that the present jail should be pulled down, and a better constructed, more commodious, and a more extended prison erected in its place, which could only

Newgate Prison.

only be effected at a most enormous expense. Your Committee, therefore, must confine their suggestions of improvement to a change in the appropriation of the present buildings.

It appears to Your Committee, that very material improvement may be facilitated without any great or unreasonable sacrifice. The regular and immediate removal of convicts after every sessions would give scope for many important alterations; and provision ought to be made for that purpose, by an establishment, where, instead of being in a state of filth and idleness, the convicts may be usefully employed. And they may further remark, that if larcenies were tried at the Quarter Sessions, as in other counties, instead of being tried at the Old Bailey, a considerable influx of prisoners would be prevented. But, if Your Committee might venture to suggest, what appears to them the most expedient arrangement, they would recommend that Newgate, as attached to the Old Bailey, should be exclusively appropriated to prisoners for trial. On a review, then, of the whole evidence concerning Newgate, as well as from the observations they were able to make while inspecting the prison, Your Committee are decidedly of opinion, that the public interest requires a speedy alteration in the condition of Newgate. They impute no blame to the present keeper (Mr. *Brown*,) and the orders and regulations he has adopted under the sanction of the City Magistrates are a great improvement; but the want of sufficient room to classify the prisoners—the entire absence, as far as the men and boys are concerned, of all employment—the promiscuous assemblage of persons of all descriptions, ages, and characters of crime, have deeply impressed Your Committee with the opinion, that no one can enter the walls of Newgate without going out from thence more depraved and corrupted than when first committed thereto. And though the Magistrates of the city of London have shown a praise-worthy disposition to remedy the grievances complained of in former times, yet, from the over-crowded state of the prison, and the confined accommodation for its numerous inhabitants, the main and prominent evils cannot be removed; and still less would it be possible so to regulate its interior arrangement as to fit it for those purposes of reformatory punishment which the good of society requires.

DARTMOOR PRISON.

Dartmoor Prison.

YOUR Committee have received in evidence, that the forest of Dartmoor contains about 130,000 acres of land, one-fifth of which is inclosed; and that a considerable part is the property of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, as Duke of Cornwall:—That the Prison thereon has formerly contained from 8,000 to 9,000 prisoners of war; and it is stated that 2,000 convicts may be well secured there, with proper divisions for classification and work-rooms. It appears, by professional evidence laid before Your Committee, that the situation of the prison on Dartmoor is indisputably healthy; that provisions are cheap; that fuel is to be acquired for the labour only; and that the utmost expenses for the proposed alteration of the prison would not exceed 5,000*l.* It is evident to Your Committee, that the proposed conversion of Dartmoor prison into a prison for convicts would place it in a more perfect state for a prison of war at any future period; as Your Committee have received in evidence, that if it remains unoccupied it must inevitably fall into decay. Your Committee therefore beg leave to direct the attention of His Majesty's Government to this subject; for the prisoners might be speedily removed from the contagious vices of the Metropolis, wherein the completion of one crime is mostly the

p. 236—231.

precursor

Dartmoor Prison.

precursor of another more iniquitous; and the youthful delinquent, by compulsatory labour, in the first instance, would be withdrawn from those habits of idleness which never fail to engender depravity, and to afford an opportunity for the imitation of bad example.

By such regulations, it appears to Your Committee that the means of actual subsistence would be acquired by the exertions of the convicts themselves, therein affording an incitement to labour, and consequently an urgent inclination for a return to virtuous habits. Dartmoor abounds with granite of an excellent quality, well adapted for the purposes of building or paving; and as His Majesty's Government are at this time purchasing large quantities for various public works, Your Committee conceive that convicts would be capable of cutting granite to any extent for ſuch purposes, and that such a process would cleanse the land, and render it fit for cultivation. Turf also may be cut to any quantity, and a canal or iron railway might convey it to Plymouth. There are also great falls of water in every part of the Moor; and Your Committee are of opinion that cloth might be manufactured by the prisoners for their own clothing, as large quantities of coarse wool can be obtained upon the spot. On this subject Your Committee beg to refer also to the Report of the Transport Board, which is hereunto annexed. The House will observe, that in the judgment of several respectable witnesses, great advantages may be derived from the application of the labour of convicts at Dartmoor. On this Your Committee refrain from expressing any opinion; but they think it proper to direct the attention of the House to the evidence in the Minutes on that subject.

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8 May 1818.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

Committee on the Prisons of The Metropolis.

Mercurii, 25° die Februarii, 1818.

MR. ALDERMAN WOOD, in the Chair.

The Reverend *Horace Salisbury Cotton* called in; and Examined.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

HOW long have you been the Ordinary of Newgate?—About four years.

Has there been any considerable increase of prisoners since you have been so?—Of criminals there has: the debtors going away lessened the number in the prison, but there has been a considerable increase of criminals.

To what extent?—I should suppose, at least, one third more.

Can you speak of the ages of the criminals: has there been any considerable increase of boys under the age of eighteen?—A very great increase.

What do you suppose to be that increase?—I think pretty well half the prisoners are under twenty years of age, and prisoners from nine to fifteen or sixteen years of age are wonderfully increased; that is up to the age I take them into the school; I do not like them past that age, unless there is any thing peculiar in the case.

How long has the school been established?—Ever since I came there; within a month or six weeks after I came.

Do you know what number of boys have been in the school?—The Committee have had a return of them; there is a register under my inspection; the schoolmaster keeps it.

Is he a convict?—Yes; a transport for seven years.

What is his offence?—Slave-trading.

In point of fact, was he not convicted for lending his boat to assist some of the natives in carrying slaves?—I understood it so by the evidence, that he had lent his boat to a black king, to engage in the slave trade.

Not his ship?—No.

To your knowledge how does he conduct himself?—Very well; I selected him as schoolmaster, being very humane to the other prisoners.

And also that you might save him from being mixed with persons whose characters were very bad?—Yes, completely so; I had two objects in view.

Have you found him very attentive to the education of the children?—Very much so; latterly he has had no assistant whatever, which the late master had.

Do you yourself attend the school daily?—Nearly so.

Do you hear them read at any time whatever?—They read before me to the master frequently; I do not mean to say I hear them read myself, but I am present when they do it.

Do you give them any religious instruction?—Yes; I teach them the church catechism, the first thing I do.

Do you attend to hear them repeat it after they have read it, to hear that they have learnt it?—I am not quite clear that I ever heard them the whole, but I have heard them repeat answers out of the catechism.

Do you ever put questions to learn whether they have received any benefit from the instruction communicated?—They can repeat the words correctly; but, I am sorry

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

sorry to say, they return to offences generally, when they are liberated, so that it does not have the effect I intended.

From your own observation, from their coming back again so frequently, you think the school has not had that benefit which you first intended?—I think the religious instruction has not had the benefit I expected it would in many instances.

Those boys are all put together whatever may be their offences?—Yes.

Whether they are there for the first time, and for the smallest offence, or whether they have been there repeatedly?—They are all together; there is no distinction.

Have they any employment during the day, except at that period when they are together in the school?—No.

How many hours in the day does that schooling last?—From about half after nine to between three and four.

Are they employed in schooling during the whole of that period?—No; there is a relaxation at twelve o'clock, and time to get their dinner; the school time is from half past nine to twelve, and from two to half past three.

So that they have about four hours schooling?—Yes.

And about ten hours idleness without any employment?—Yes.

Do you observe any boys amongst those, who form any exception to the general character, not employed?—Very often.

Do you not find the younger boys more versed in wickedness, and more in the habit of returning to it again than the older?—That is a question I do not know how I can answer; I really am not prepared with an answer to that question.

Do you not know from visiting the prison so often, that there was a practice among the younger boys of taking things from persons there, and even taking a handkerchief from the neck of a person who came in?—I do not think they were peculiarly so any more than the older boys.

Do you take every boy into that school that is under fifteen, committed to Newgate?—Generally speaking, I do; I used to do so in Mr. Newman's time; but lately I have been obliged to ask permission, and sometimes there are boys I do not wish to take into the school who are too bad.

Who selects the boys?—If any selection takes place, I do myself, by application to the keeper, and sometimes the turnkeys, when I am not present; when they see a very young boy come in, they will send him into the school.

When the Committee were at Newgate the other day, they found in the yards several boys; were those boys all refused by you coming into the school?—No.

Do you know why they were not admitted into the school?—No.

Have you seen them in the yards?—I have seen some boys in the yards.

Did you then inquire whether their not being admitted, was owing to the badness of their characters?—No, I did not; I apply to Mr. Brown so often to let me have boys go up into the school; I did not want to apply for those I saw.

Will you give a reason to the Committee why they are not in the school?—Because the keeper does not place them there.

Be good enough to name some boy whom you have asked the keeper to admit into the school, and whom he has refused?—It is not in that way I wish it to be understood; they are there, because the keeper has not placed them in the school.

Have you any boy which you wish to be placed there, which has been so refused?—No; whenever I have applied to the keeper, he has always granted my request.

Do you feel it to be your duty to go into the yards as often as you visit Newgate, to see if there are any boys there under the age described, and to apply for their admission into the school?—I do not go into the yards for the special purpose of inquiring whether there are any boys there; but I usually ask whether there are any young boys there; I go for other purposes, but whenever I have asked for a boy to go into the school, Mr. Brown has always granted me.

Do you not feel it your duty to apply to the keeper, to know what boys have come in daily, and to ask whether they are such as should be admitted into the school?—I do not know that I do do it daily; I generally inquire what young people come in; but I do not go at any particular hour to the prison.

Have you ever, in any instance, asked Mr. Brown for boys fit for the school, and have been refused?—No.

In no one instance—No.

Have you not found a readiness in Mr. Brown to deliver over such boys?—Yes.

Do you know that there are boys that are not admitted into the school?—Yes.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

Why have you not applied to the keeper for the admission of those boys?—I do not know how to answer that question; I apply so often, that I do not know how to answer the question.

In point of fact, are there not much fewer boys now than there used to be in the school?—Yes.

Are there not more boys left in the yard now than in Mr. Newman's time?—I think there are.

Tell the Committee how many boys there are now out of the school?—I do not know.

How many are there in the school at present?—I do not think I can tell exactly, whether there are twenty or not; I think the Gentlemen will not be surprised at that, because it varies every hour; some are acquitted, and some are brought in fresh.

Do you admit generally all the boys, whether they are under sentence of death, or under slighter sentences?—Not under sentence of death.

Is that the only exception?—Yes.

That does not apply to the boys who are not now in the school?—No.

There has been a boy taken out of the cells, and put into the school?—Yes, in several instances.

By whose authority?—Sometimes by the authority of the Lord Mayor, sometimes by the authority of the Sheriff, and sometimes by Mr. Newman's authority, and sometimes I have done it myself; but there is an order now, it is not to be done.

The order is now, that the boy, be his age what it may, nine years old or younger, should be ironed, and put into the cells along with the men?—The order is, that no person who is hereafter under sentence of death, is to be in any other part of the prison than that appropriated for them. I believe that is the style of the order.

In point of fact, were there not, within the last sessions, two or three boys under thirteen years of age, one of them little more than nine, who were ironed in the press yard?—Yes, five.

Do any of the parents, to your knowledge, pay the schoolmaster for accommodation which the boys may receive, either by indulgences of better food or better bedding, or indulgences of any kind?—Not to my knowledge or belief?

Did the former master, to your knowledge or belief, receive any money?—He did.

What sum did he receive from any one boy?—That I cannot tell. A small weekly payment, I believe.

Did it not come through your hands?—No.

It was done with your knowledge?—I knew it at the time.

Did he not receive one pound per week for one boy?—I do not know the circumstance.

In several instances there was a payment?—A small weekly payment.

Did you communicate what you now say you knew to any one of the magistrates or sheriffs?—No.

You did not?—No; I believe Mr. Newman was acquainted with the circumstance.

Was it not done at a time in which the school was excessively crowded with boys, there being forty or fifty boys in the school, and there being two boys who belonged to a better class of life than the ordinary boys who were committed there; and that it was an anxious wish, expressed, not only by the friends of those two boys, but by the persons who visited the prison, that those children should be saved as much as possible from the contamination that might have followed from their association with the other boys?—Certainly.

Were they kept separate, so as not to mix in the course of the day with the other boys?—As separate as possible; they sat with the master in another room.

Did they not mix in the school-room?—Yes.

And in the yard?—Yes, when we had a yard.

What description were the boys; were they boys that had been better educated?—One of them was the son of an artist, just come from boarding-school; after he was acquitted, he was sent to a boarding-school provided for him.

What was the other boy?—To the best of my recollection, he was a boy who was in a creditable situation.

As far as you were concerned, you gave that implied approbation of the practice, by not reporting it as a matter of censure, because you thought it the means of saving the boys from an indiscriminate association with bad characters that were in the school?—Yes, clearly so.

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Had you spoken to the magistrates or sheriffs, do you not think they would have endeavoured to find a place for the boys now described, where they should not have mixed with the other boys at all; have you ever been refused?—No.

Did you at any one time signify to the Lord Mayor, or the sheriffs, or the magistrates, that there were persons of the description mentioned, and that they ought to be separated?—It would be almost superfluous in me to mention it, when they were there every day.

They could not know all the characters of the lads sent there like the chaplain, who knows the character, and so on, of all who come there, and who would naturally mention it?—They saw it, and therefore I had no occasion to mention it; they were separated as much as the room of the prison would allow.

Is there no yard at present, in which the boys can take the air?—There is no yard appropriated for the boys, but there is a yard where they may go into for an hour or two. The men are kept locked up while the boys are there.

The period of their taking the air is necessarily shortened?—Yes.

Do you think, from your observation, that the deprivation of that yard has had any effect upon the health of the boys?—I think it has; I think they look worse.

How many boys are in the infirmary?—There are some; but I cannot tell how many.

How many boys are there now in the school, who have been there a certain time, by which their health has been impaired, and how long have they been there?—I was speaking of the boys generally; I am not speaking of one or two in particular; and those that have been longer in prison have been removed just lately, who had enjoyed the benefit of the yard before; they have just been removed, particularly little Grey.

Have you any doubt that his appearance was considerably changed, for the time he was imprisoned, for the worse?—I thought he looked worse, and all the children; it was the observation of the visitors.

The boys that are moved out of the cells, have the appearance of having their health injured by the rigour of their confinement?—I think they have.

Was there not a time, in the early part of the establishment of the school, when there was leather bought for the scholars to make shoes?—It might be about two years ago, there was leather bought, and a shoemaker put to teach them.

Why was it discontinued?—Because they plundered me and cheated me.

Who did?—The boys, and the man whom I put there.

The boys stole the leather?—They sent out the good leather and brought in bad, and they went so far as to cut through the leather of the shoes out of mischief, after they had been paid for making them.

In general, are not the boys very destitute of clothing?—Yes.

Were not you with one of the members of the Committee some time back, when the prison was visited, when you found a boy of the name of Sidebottom, who had neither shoes nor stockings, nor breeches nor waistcoat, who had borrowed a shirt from his companion, and the only other clothes he had was a tattered great coat, that was pinned before to hide his nakedness?—Yes.

How long had he been in prison?—I cannot tell.

Do you recollect, whether it was not stated that he had been in prison about three weeks?—The impression upon my mind is, that it was so stated.

Do you recollect, whether any question was asked, if he had been seen by the visiting magistrates or the sheriffs?—Yes, that question was asked.

What was the answer?—That he had.

Who were the visiting magistrates?—The sheriffs; I beg to correct myself, I did not mean to say the magistrates, I meant to say the sheriffs.

Will you tell the Committee whether you told any one of the sheriffs, or any one of the visiting magistrates, the distressed state of that boy, as regarded his dress?—To the sheriffs I pointed out that boy, as well as the whole of the boys, they being all destitute of clothing.

You pointed out to the sheriff he was destitute of clothing; did the sheriff give him any clothing?—The sheriff said he would see about it; there have been applications upon that subject frequently.

And have they not sent in clothing, in answer to those applications?—They have now.

Had not one of the boys a new pair of shoes given him a short time since, and did he not send them out and sell them?—I have heard of it, I do not know it.

Do you not know that the sheriffs have a subscription fund from the magistrates, as

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as well as other gentlemen who attend the Old Bailey; did you ever apply to them in the case of this boy who was there, to describe his situation, and to get some clothes for him?—I had pointed him out to the sheriff.

Under the peculiar circumstances in which he was, without any shirt but what he borrowed, shoes, stockings, waistcoat, breeches, and nothing but a ragged great coat to cover his nakedness, did you apply to the sheriff to get any relief?—I pointed him out to the sheriff.

Did you apply to the sheriff to get any clothing for his covering?—He has been pointed out to the sheriff.

I put a plain question to you, whether you did, as you were bound to do, state to the sheriff the state of this poor boy?—I pointed him out, together with the other boys, to the sheriff.

Did you do what you judged to be substantially the same?—Yes.

Do you think it your duty, when you see a distressed case of that sort, to point it out to the sheriff or magistrates?—To the keeper, I believe, I always do, when I see a distressed object; and his answer has been, there are no clothes in store, and he would speak to the sheriff.

In point of fact, has it not often happened to you, when you have been visiting the prison, to have seen persons without shirts and in a tattered condition, and upon inquiries being made why they are so, to receive answers from those of whom those inquiries were made, that there were no clothes in store; that clothes had been repeatedly asked for, had been often promised, but none had been received?—That is true, certainly.

State the names of those persons who told you there were no clothes in store?—They of whom the question was asked.

The prisoners or turnkeys?—The turnkeys.

Do you keep a list or memorandum of any distressed boys, or men or women in a state of wretchedness, and then the first time you see any person who can give that assistance, make an application for clothing?—I do not keep a list, but generally in coming out of the yard I mention either to the turnkeys, or Mr. Brown or Mr. Box, that there is a boy or man in a distressed state.

Do you feel it to be part of your duty, and acknowledge it as such, in case of seeing individuals in this state of nudity, to report it to the sheriffs or visiting magistrates?—The keeper is to do that.

Do you not think it your duty to state it to the keeper?—I have often done so, as I came out of the yard.

Do you visit the prison daily, all the wards?—Not all the wards daily, I visit the prison three or four times a day, not all the wards.

You never go in to offer any religious instruction at all, to any of them?—Yes, I do certainly.

Is that when you are asked to do it?—Yes; but if I see any thing that is immoral, or any thing of that kind, I immediately reprove it, and exhort them about it; I frequently exhort them upon their crimes, even before they are convicted, and endeavour to awaken them to a sense of religion and morality.

Do you visit the sick daily?—No, I do not; I visit them when I am sent for; Mr. Box told me, lately it was dangerous to go into the sick wards.

You do not make it a practice to visit the sick unless you are sent for?—Yes, I do; when I know of a distressing case, I go and speak to them, and console them as well as I can.

Have you any room in the prison to which you can summon a prisoner to speak to by himself; any apartment?—Not belonging to me, but I could have permission to take a prisoner into the house or the office.

You can have that permission at any time?—Yes.

Have you ever so done?—I think I have; I have always every sort of accommodation on the part of the keeper, I call them into the lodge now generally.

You never find any difficulty in that respect?—No; but I have no room appropriated to it.

Do the prisoners generally attend the chapel on the Sunday?—Yes, the chapel is generally full.

Is it a matter of course that all the convicted criminals who are of the Church of England should attend the chapel?—Not as matter of course; the attendance is voluntary, except when under sentence of death.

Do they always come?—Generally speaking, they do always, without there is some excuse; that a man is ill, or something of that sort.

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How often is the sacrament administered?—Once a quarter, and generally when executions are ordered.

Do any of the prisoners take the sacrament, besides the condemned?—Others besides those capitally convicted do; a Sunday or two there were seven or eight communicants besides some strangers, and the sheriff and a lady with him.

Were they chiefly women?—No, chiefly men; I do not think there were any women; there was no woman prisoner, except the two unfortunate women.

When you visit the cells of those persons condemned, and you find three in a cell, which is sometimes the case, do you speak to them all three together, or do you take one of them out and speak to them singly?—I speak to them all three together, unless there is some private matter to be spoken of to them singly.

Is it your opinion that that part of your duty, which is performed in attendance upon persons in that calamitous situation, is best performed where there are three persons assembled together, or whether you are not more likely to excite them to repentance, if you communicated with them individually?—You must communicate with them individually, if they are separate crimes.

The queſtion meant separately, not before the others?—I can move them, and have done it; I send one man into another cell while I talk to the man left behind, when there has been something peculiar.

The question went to, whether you did not think that the placing three persons together in a cell conduces but little to that state of proper repentance, which it is your duty to awaken, if it does not already exist?—I think one in a cell, or in other words, solitary confinement, would operate more upon the human mind than the other, their minds would be operated upon more completely by the confinement suggested; being three together they talk over their circumstances, and get rid of religious impressions.

You have no doubt their minds would be better prepared for religious exhortation by solitary confinement?—Certainly; I conceive solitary confinement so terrific, that it must have some effect upon the human mind.

Is it your opinion, that the persons capitally convicted ought to be separated, instead of being kept together in the press yard?—I think it would be better if they were separated.

Have you witnessed scenes of indecent mirth or riot among the convicts, occasioned by the profligacy of one or two, when the others were decorous or penitent?—I have.

Are those who are reported for execution kept separate from the other capital convicts?—Lately they have been; there are two rooms in which they have been kept; what was the infirmary, is now made a condemned room; there are two condemned rooms now.

The press yard is open to both?—Yes.

Have you observed, that the behaviour and moral character of the persons in the prison has been at all affected by the manner in which they have been treated there?—I do not exactly understand the nature of the question.

The Committee want to know, whether or not from your own observation, it is your opinion the kind of treatment which the prisoners experience within the prison walls, has any effect upon their behaviour, and their moral conduct?—It must have.

Is that consistent with your own observation?—It is certainly.

Have you ever observed, whether the practice of ironing persons before trial has had any effect, advantageous or otherwise upon them?—They are very often indignant at it, they dislike it amazingly, and very often complain of it; they have said they are not convicted.

Do you apprehend, that the temper of mind into which they are put by that treatment, at all affects the facility of persuading them of the impropriety of their conduct, in any instance?—No, I am not aware that it goes that length; they look upon it as an evil they must endure; they feel it a hardship when the irons are put on, but seeing other persons so, they bear it without complaint.

Supposing two persons, for a similar offence, were committed to any prison, one of whom should be marked by having the irons put on him, and the other should be suffered to go about the prison unironed; do you apprehend that your moral instructions or admonitions would have an equal effect upon those two persons?—I think they would be more ready to attend, if they were not ironed before conviction.

Are those irons effectual for any purpose of restraint?—I do not think they are; I think they are used as a mark to distinguish them from strangers, that they may not escape.

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Would they afford means of detection, if the prisoner should escape?—They might do.

They cannot quickly be moved?—No, they are closely rivetted on.

Was there not an instance, within a year or two, of a capital convict almost escaping in women's clothes, and being discovered only by the noise of his irons?—Yes, there was an instance of that sort; the irons were felt under the clothes.

Who was that?—Bowen.

How many years ago?—I suppose not twelve months ago; he has since made his escape on the voyage, at Rio Janeiro.

Are the Committee to understand, that you consider that individuals not in irons would be more ready to receive religious instruction than if in irons?—Yes.

It irritates their minds?—Yes, I think it does.

Then your opinion is, that the mind, in a state of irritation, is less susceptible of religious instruction than it otherwise would be?—Yes.

You apprehend also, they consider it as a degradation?—Yes.

It was formerly the practice to introduce a coffin on the preaching of the condemned sermon; in consequence of an opinion being expressed by one of the Committees of the House of Commons, that practice was discontinued; has it been recently revived?—Two or three executions ago it was revived.

By whose order?—I received a note from the keeper, saying, he had it in command from the sheriff, that the coffin was to be placed upon the table.

The present sheriff?—Not the present sheriff.

In what shrievalty was this?—The late shrievalty.

Do you recollect, whether there was any thing in the nature of the execution that required what was considered an additional solemnity?—No, I believe not; the poor men were dreadfully distressed at it.

Had it any effect upon them?—One of them fell backwards directly he saw the coffin.

What was the offence?—I think it was house-breaking; I cannot exactly recollect.

Is that the only instance?—The only instance.

It has never been repeated?—No; the last execution was left to me. Mr. Brown was ill, and he left it to me to manage as I used to do.

Have the persons under sentence of death expressed any unwillingness to attend the condemned sermon, since the practice of placing the coffin has been discontinued? No, I think not since.

They did previously?—Yes, as I have been informed.

How long is it since that ceremony of the coffin has been done away?—Ever since I have been there.

Prior to your coming there?—Yes.

You cannot judge of the effect of what was done before your time?—I have seen it there.

In that one instance only?—Yes.

Did the whole of the persons attend that morning who were for execution?—Yes.

They did not know the coffin was there, and therefore they could not make the objection?—No.

Do the visiting magistrates or the sheriffs attend divine service?—The sheriffs do occasionally, and the under-sheriff.

Do the visiting magistrates?—They do not attend.

Does the keeper attend regularly?—Yes.

How often is service performed?—Sundays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The public service is on Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

With a sermon on Sunday?—Yes; the private service is only to the condemned; sometimes I get them into the chapel, and read it there instead of the room.

You perform service twice on the Sunday?—No, only once; my instructions are, to read prayers twice; but it was found to be inconvenient; nobody had ever done it before me; and I attempted once or twice, and Mr. Newman requested me to discontinue it, it was found to be so inconvenient.

Was there any communication made to the magistrates or the Lord Mayor upon that subject?—I do not think there was, it was returned to the Court of Aldermen by the keeper.

Do you know that of your own knowledge?—I saw it written in the book, I know it was returned.

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What was the nature of the inconvenience?—The keeper complained that it distressed him, that it was getting dark, there was something peculiar going on in the prison, and particular people were there; before my time it was not done.

In your instructions from the Court of Aldermen, which you had in writing, did they contain an order for you to perform divine worship twice on every Sunday?—Yes.

Did you ever receive an order from the Court to discontinue one part of that duty?—No.

You have done this without any order or direction whatever from the Court?—Yes.

In what book did you see the change in the practice written?—In a book which I believe goes to the Lord Mayor on a Monday morning.

Was it in a book which purports to be the visiting magistrates book?—No, it is a book which goes to the Court of Aldermen, or the Lord Mayor, every week; there used to be such a book.

How long is it since the practice has been discontinued?—I should think about a year; it was in Mr. Newman's time.

What were the hours of prayer?—A quarter past two.

Did you consider that the change in the practice was known to the proper authorities of the prison, namely, the sheriffs, visiting magistrates, &c.?—I consider it was known to the Court of Aldermen, because I saw it in the book.

Is there any person who regularly acts as clerk?—He is dead.

How long has he been dead?—About a year.

Has no person been appointed since?—No.

Is any inconvenience found to arise from the want of a regular clerk?—Yes; sometimes I am obliged to make the responses myself, and sometimes they make them in the wrong places.

Have you ever communicated to the magistrates the death of this man, and that you desired to have another appointed?—I have not; I have complained repeatedly to the keeper that I had no clerk.

Who appointed you?—The Court of Aldermen.

Should you not look to them for any thing of that kind?—I thought the keeper had to do it, for I believe he appointed the last clerk.

Does the keeper or the principal turnkeys attend?—The keeper regularly attends.

Is it any troublesome process collecting the prisoners together for divine service?—No; they are collected together as soon as they can get them out of the cells, which may take ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

In the chapel the prisoners see each other, male and female?—Yes.

When the condemned sermon is preached, a certain number of persons are admitted into the chapel?—Yes.

Who are they?—A certain number of prisoners whom I select.

Do you not think it would be advantageous to all the persons in the prison, whether convicts or untried, to be present on such an occasion as that?—I should hope it would be useful, but how would the public be benefitted.

The public are admitted?—Yes.

What class of persons usually attend?—Apprentices, journeymen, very respectable women, and citizens.

Your opinion is, that it is more advantageous to the public, and the cause of morals, that the doors of the prison should be thrown open to a certain number of the public on that day, than that the prisoners should be admitted generally?—Yes; the practice is to admit the public, and not the prisoners; the execution is intended as an admonition to people not to fall into those courses; every sermon that I deliver I usually address it, in the conclusion, to the circumstances of the prisoners, so that it is, in point of fact, a condemned sermon every sermon that I deliver.

In the way you have now mentioned, are you following the plan of your predecessor; was it always the case that the prisoners were excluded, from the doors being open to strangers?—I believe so.

Has it been your constant practice?—It has; and the anxiety of the public to come and hear the condemned sermon is wonderful

Is it not your opinion, that many persons of those who attend from out of doors, come there from mere motives of curiosity?—Yes, I think that is very possible.

Many persons upon whom your lesson is thrown away and superfluous, as much as in any other instance?—I am inclined to think that many people go to church out of curiosity, but it does not follow that the lesson is thrown away upon them.

What is the number of prisoners you select and introduce into the chapel on those occasions?—Sometimes more and sometimes less; I usually take those under sentence

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of death, and some of the women and some of the most penitent of the men; some peculiar cases; for instance, before that poor man Evans was executed, I had a sermon to deliver about some others, and I particularly provided he should come to the chapel, knowing he would not have an opportunity to hear the condemned sermon if he were convicted, though he was not then convicted or tried.

What might be the gross number of prisoners that attend?—I should think there might be fifty prisoners the last Sunday, or more.

So that in general full one half of the chapel is left open to the public?—Yes.

Are any number of female prisoners brought to the chapel upon that occasion?—As many as I wish; I generally give a list.

As many as can join in singing the hymn?—Principally those.

Are those excluded who cannot sing the hymn?—No, I must select some, and I make the selection according to the best of my judgment.

Are any brought besides those who can sing the hymn?—A few; if any person expresses a very great desire to hear the sermon, I say, "Poor creature, I'll put your name down."

There is a transport of the name of Rawlinson in prison now, who was tried for the same offence for which his two cousins suffered this morning; was he present the last condemned sermon?—I do not think he was; he would stay away of course, and not see his relations in that state.

Do the children or boys all attend?—Yes.

You stated, that the service in the afternoon was attended with great inconvenience; will you have the goodness to state to the Committee, what inconvenience you have experienced from that service being performed?—It was an inconvenience to the keeper; I know nothing more about it.

You never expressed any unwillingness to renew the practice of having service twice a day?—No.

If the keeper should think it inconvenient to follow the magistrates orders, did you feel yourself bound to follow the magistrates orders or the keeper's?—There can be no hesitation that I should obey the magistrates order; but at the same time, if the keeper should acquaint me it was inconvenient to have service upon any particular day, I should say, "Very well," and we should not have the service.

Then at the same time you have no doubt, after having seen the change in the practice entered into the book, which was accustomed to be laid before the Court of Aldermen weekly, that they were aware of the change in that practice, and by their not having expressed any disapprobation, must have tacitly approved of it?—Certainly, I thought they knew it, because they had the books before them.

How long is it since this custom of the discontinuation of the service in the afternoon has taken place?—I think about a twelvemonth ago.

When the service was omitted, was there any special report made to the Court of Aldermen, with the inconvenience mentioned which occasioned that omission, that being a sixth part of the duty of the chaplain?—The inconvenience I know nothing about; the keeper represented it to be inconvenient, and I thought he had some special reason for it.

It did not take place in the present keeper's time?—No, in Mr. Newman's time.

You have no doubt in your own mind, that the change made in the service, was known to the competent authority, either to the Court of Aldermen or the Lord Mayor?—I saw it written in their book.

And you were persuaded that they must know it?—Yes.

You stated, there were certain people there, with other inconveniences; can you explain who they were?—I do not recollect the circumstance; there were some people under sentence, that Mr. Newman looked after particularly.

How is that applicable to the whole twelvemonth?—I do not know that it is.

Are you aware of any particular inconvenience of resuming the practice of having service twice on the Sunday?—I am not aware of the particular inconvenience.

Is it not less inconvenient now than it used to be, in consequence of very few strangers being admitted within the prison?—They are excluded during the service.

They were admitted within the gates of the prison?—Never during divine service.

Now, as they are not admitted at all, would it not be much more convenient?—They are admitted now in the evening, there being no evening service.

In the condemned cells, of which there are only fifteen, and in which there are sometimes forty-five criminals, are the prisoners who are of a more serious cast accustomed to complain to you of their mixture with characters of a very different description from themselves?—Yes.

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Did not the boy Vartie, who was executed a few weeks since, make grievous complaint upon that subject?—Yes, repeatedly.

Will you have the goodness to state, whether any degree, and what degree of profaneness, or indecent language or conduct, exists in the prison?—I really do not know; there is a degree certainly exists.

Should you say generally, that the conduct of the prisoners was indecent, highly indecent, or not at all so?—When left to themselves, out of my eye, of course they will discourse about that they do out of doors, and their conversation is usually very bad.

Do they receive you generally with respect?—With the greatest respect.

There is no tumultuous or indecent conduct in your presence?—None.

Is it your opinion, that much would be gained to the cause of good morals, if a certain system of classification was adopted in the prison?—Yes.

Do you apprehend, that at present any approximation is made towards such a system?—Not what I call classification.

What is the present classification?—They are divided into people for trial, fines, capital convicts, transports, and the boys; I am speaking now of the men's side.

How would you propose they should be classified?—I would have them classified according to age, offence, education, &c. and never have them in such masses as they are now; I would never have above fifteen together, and that according to their crimes and behaviour.

Describe the classification of the women at present?—The tried are separated from the untried; there is a female school to which the female children go, and some of the better sort of prisoners.

The prisoners among the children?—They go to school whether convicted or not tried, if they are young female children of twelve or thirteen years of age.

Do you mean to say, that there is no separation between children of a moral appearance, and those who are of an opposite description?—No.

The children are altogether?—Yes.

No other distinction than that of sex?—No.

Your knowledge is now for four years; is there room for the classification to which you have referred, and which you would recommend?—Certainly not.

When you first entered upon your office, men and women were admitted into the prison?—Yes.

Strangers were admitted more indiscriminately than now?—Yes, more indiscriminately a great deal.

At that time did you not observe many, women especially, who appeared to be of loose character, admitted habitually into the prison?—Yes.

Is that any longer the case?—They will get into the prison.

Is it any longer the case to the same extent?—It is not the case to the same extent.

To what extent does it now exist; in other words, is it your opinion there are still women admitted into the prison, who ought not to be?—I think there are; but when it is known to Mr. Brown, he orders them out directly.

Is not Mr. Brown particularly solicitous to clear the prison of women of that description?—Yes.

Is the classification, in your opinion, as complete as the limits of the prison will admit?—I think there might be rather better classification.

What further classification might be accomplished as the prison is at present?—If the apartments are to be so large, we cannot divide any more.

Then your opinion is, the classification is as complete as the arrangement of the prison will admit of?—Yes.

How many will your chapel contain?—I can only guess; I think it would contain 350, or somewhere thereabouts.

There are sometimes six hundred, and there have been eight hundred in the prison; is the chapel large enough for that number?—Certainly not.

Have you ever observed any prisoners in a state of intoxication, except in the moment of their being first brought to Newgate, within the last year?—I have not; I believe in the former evidence I gave, I did state that I had seen it, but only in one case.

You have not observed any intemperance, generally speaking?—No.

Mr.

Mr.
J. A. Newman.

Mr. *John Addison Newman*, called in; and Examined.

Having delivered in a paper, which was read as follows:—

An Account of the number of prisoners brought into His Majesty's Goal of Newgate, by original commitment; and also by removal from other prisons, six days previous to the commencement of every sessions at the Old Bailey, from the end of each preceding sessions until the day of such removal, for six years; commencing at December sessions 1810, and ending at the next sessions after Michaelmas 1816.

		Original Commitment.		*Removal.*	
		London.	Middlesex.	London.	Middlesex.
From 1810 to 1811	-	9.	544.	178.	204.
to 1812	-	9.	599.	185.	226.
to 1813	-	7.	685.	219.	220.
to 1814	-				
to 1815	-	11.	813.	183.	155.
to 1816	-	197.	986.	63.	191.

(Signed) *J. A. Newman.*

The number committed after the days of removal is not inserted.

Speaking of the commitments from Middlesex, were any prisoners committed at a late hour?—Yes; as late as eleven or twelve at night.

Were they brought at any time in a state of intoxication?—Sometimes.

From what offices have they come?—Principally from those which were farthest off; mostly from Marlborough-street.

Have you had any prisoners that have come in very ill?—There have been some come in very ill; I do not know whether late at night.

Were they removals or committals?—Committals.

Did you ever feel it your duty to inquire how long the officers had had them in their possession, before they brought them to you?—No; we used to complain at bringing them so late, and they used to say they had other prisoners to leave, some at Clerkenwell and other places, and they brought them all in a string, and left some as they came along.

You have frequently found them come in a state of intoxication?—Yes.

Upon the appointment of a new chaplain, on the cession of Doctor Ford, Mr. Cotton had certain orders for the performance of divine service; namely, on Sunday morning and afternoon, a sermon in the morning and prayers in the afternoon; was it discontinued in your time?—It continued for some time, till the days got so short there was no time to get them in by daylight, and out again, and then there was some memorandum made about it in the visiting alderman's book at that time; I forget who it was made by, that it should be discontinued for the present.

That was during the short days?—Yes; so I understood.

When the days increased?—There was nothing said about it.

You did not resume the duty?—No; I do not recollect that we did.

Did you never inquire the reason why the service was not performed in the afternoon, when the days lengthened?—Sometimes Mr. Cotton has asked me when we should begin it; I have said when it was convenient to him; there was some reason or other; I cannot tell exactly why it was not.

What time did you leave it?—In April.

There was no want of daylight then?—No.

You thought it inconvenient?—I do not recollect whether I thought it inconvenient or no.

You agreed with Mr. Cotton upon the subject?—Yes.

Had you any circumstance in the prison, any inconvenience to yourself?—There was a great deal of temper of disobedience in the prisoners, and I believe the Chairman will recollect being sent for from the country, at twelve o'clock at night, when they were endeavouring to break out.

When was that?—In 1816; then there were the riots afterwards, and there were soldiers kept in the prison continually; so that there was a great deal of confusion; I am not prepared to say that that was the real cause, but I think it was.

You had not begun the system of the exclusion of visitors then?—No; it was rather before that; that created a great deal of ill-temper and ill-will.

In your opinion, would it not be more convenient now to have the afternoon service than ever?—Yes, if visitors are not admitted.

Jovis, 26° *die Februarii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

William Robert Henry Brown, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. R. H. Brown.*

YOU are Keeper of Newgate?—Yes.

How long have you been so?—I was appointed on the 15th of April, and took possession on the 13th of May 1817.

What salary have you?—Five hundred pounds a year.

And a house free of taxes?—Yes, clear of all taxes.

Is that a greater or less salary than Mr. Newman had?—I think it is one half less.

Mr. Newman having had one thousand pounds a year?—I have been informed so.

Had he a house also clear of taxes?—Yes.

Was this sum paid to him in the form of fees, in any part?—No, I understood after the fees were abolished, this salary was given in lieu of them. I should apprehend the fees must have produced him much more than that, as well as I can judge; and that was one reason why the transports remained so long in prison. It must be taken for granted, that the fees occasioned that; because many of them paid for their lodging, and some 3*s.* a week.

Those fees are all abolished?—That was my instruction from the Court of Aldermen, that I was to take no fees, nor allow them to be taken.

Do you apprehend, that the law abolishing fees is or can be at all evaded by the inferior officers?—It has been very often reported, that fees have been exacted from prisoners and their friends; but upon inquiry, I have not found that made out.

In no one instance?—No, not in my time.

Do you apprehend, that what is called "garnish" is abolished?—Yes, I apprehend I have set that entirely at rest.

There is no money taken in the way of contribution money for purchasing coals?—I know of none.

Is there any taken for the accommodation of one prisoner to another; the loan of a bed, for instance?—I know of none; it is not allowed; some of the prisoners have beds of their own, and they have accommodated another prisoner with their bed, which, I understand, they are paid a shilling a week for; and it frequently happens that the wardsman finds utensils for cooking, and where the prisoners can afford, they pay two-pence or three-pence for the use of the utensils.

That will be done away with when the kitchen is finished?—Yes.

Are the wardsmen prisoners?—Yes. When I took possession of that prison, I found that the wardsmen in general were persons composed of characters of the blackest dye. It was considered by Mr. Newman, that these kind of characters were the fittest to govern the wards; consequently there was a flash language, which was constantly kept up, and blasphemy was encouraged. I thought it best to pursue the opposite course, and take the best men I could find, to see what effect that would have; and it has produced very beneficial results, inasmuch that I do not hear, in my different visits to the wards, that blasphemy or flash language which I did when I first came to the prison.

What is the salary of each of those wardsmen?—They have no salary.

In what manner are they paid?—They are prisoners; they have little indulgences; they are without irons, and I have held out to them, that their uniform good conduct, and keeping up a proper degree of discipline in the wards, I had no doubt would lead to their being recognized by the Secretary of State at a future period.

So that persons who are wardsmen, and who conduct themselves properly, have a fair chance of not going to the hulks, but of receiving their pardon, or being sent to the Penitentiary?—I have no doubt of it. We have three men now that I expect pardons for, who have been employed in Newgate as carpenters, who have behaved so extremely well, that by my having got their original master to come forward and promise to employ them, in case of a pardon, that they will be pardoned. Lord Sidmouth has granted it.

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Is the going to the Penitentiary looked forward to as an advantage by the prisoners?—In a great measure it is; some do not like it.

At first they were all generally afraid of it, but at present, are they not better pleased?—Yes; the prisoners are very forward in their applications to go to the Penitentiary; but there are many who do make the application, who are not fit for the place, I mean old and reputed thieves.

After your arrival at the prison, did you find that the wardsmen you have been speaking of, took considerable sums of money from the prisoners?—Yes; it was so reported to me.

Have you any doubt, from the best information you have been able to obtain, that it was the former practice to purchase those situations of wardsmen?—From the various reports I have had, I think it extremely probable it was so; I have no evidence of the fact; I think it is likely, because the wardsmen were men of the very worst description.

How many turnkeys have you?—Three principal turnkeys, whose wages are two guineas a week each.

How many others?—Eight under ones, at 30*s.* per week.

What are the next officers?—One assistant turnkey in the untried yard, at one guinea a week.

Is that all that there are below?—Yes.

How many watchmen?—Two watchmen on the top of the prison, day and night.

All those officers are paid by the Court of Aldermen?—Yes; the watchmen relieve each other every hour, and have 30*s.* a week.

Have the turnkeys any perquisites besides their salary?—I know of none, excepting what has been always the practice, to open the chapel to the public, on condemned sermon days, and then every body that goes in pays a shilling, eighteen-pence or two shillings; they collect every thing they can of them.

Do the officers lodge in the prison, all of them?—No, not all of them; the three principal turnkeys lodge in the prison, and two under ones.

Have they coals and candles allowed them?—A bushel of coals a week each; they have no candles allowed; the lamps are lighted by the city, and they burn all night; we burn about two pounds of candles a week, to light the prisoners about the prison.

What assistance have you on the women's side?—There is the matron, who has been appointed within this last month.

What is she paid?—A guinea a week.

Are they female turnkeys on the women's side, or men?—When I came, there used to be a man at the gate, who I found was always getting very drunk, which I thought a very improper thing, and I removed him, and placed a woman there, who was a woman of very good character, and the place has been very much improved; she stands at the inner gate that goes into the female yard, for which she has a shilling a week.

She is a prisoner?—Yes; she has conducted herself with a vast deal of propriety.

What other allowance has the matron?—The same allowance as the prisoners are allowed, two pounds of meat a week, and their bread.

Is the matron a prisoner?—No.

The turnkeys have no allowance?—No.

The whole of those expenses are paid by the Court of Aldermen?—Yes; there are two other persons paid fifteen shillings a week, who have not been mentioned, who are women employed as searchers to search the female visitors; they are not prisoners.

Have these women no other duty?—No; not in the prison.

Are there no other women in attendance on the women in the prison?—No; there is a wardswoman attached to each ward, who is a prisoner.

Have you recollected now all the payments for wages?—Yes; we pay somewhere about sixteen or seventeen shillings a week, under a pound, to the prisoners employed as pumpers and wardsmen; the pumpers supply the prisoners with water every day to wash their rooms.

Are they prisoners?—Yes; for fines, we could not trust transports.

Are the women searched for the purpose of preventing spirits being brought in?—Every thing that is improper; they search them in the little room on the side as you go in.

Are you satisfied with the number of turnkeys and assistants of all kinds now allowed you in the prison; do you think the establishment sufficient?—Undoubtedly, if they are all efficient men.

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How many are there who are not efficient?—I think there are three who are not.

Does not it depend upon you to discharge them?—I have suspended several times some of them for what I considered improper conduct, and left it to the Gaol Committee to discharge them.

Have you made any representation to the gaol committee?—I have always in the case of suspension communicated it to the Lord Mayor, or the first gaol committee that has been held, and the matter has been investigated.

Have you not solicited the discharge of those men on account of their inefficiency?—No; the men are very well; I do not charge them with any negligence, but I think two of them are past labour; I am obliged to put them in a situation where they are least exposed to danger.

You do not require any other alteration in the establishment, in order to render it efficient?—No.

You take it upon you to punish the turnkeys by fine?—I have done it once, where a man got intoxicated; I mulcted him half a crown in his week's wages; I did it for the sake of example, and it had a very good effect.

Who appoints the turnkeys?—These men were all appointed before my time; I do not know whether Mr. Newman appointed them, or whether they were appointed by the court of aldermen, but as the keeper is responsible for the acts of his servants, I always understood he had the appointment.

When you have represented the conduct of the men whom you have suspended, have they been discharged?—In one instance one was reinstated; I have not had any discharged, and I do not mean my suspension to have that effect, and so I represented to the Committee; I thought a suspension for a few weeks would have a good effect, which it had.

You consider yourself you should be authorised to appoint a man?—I should think I should be; I have got a man who has been ill for a fortnight, and I have been obliged to put on another man, merely while this man is in this state, on the recommendation of Mr. Alderman Atkins; he appears to me to be likely to do very well.

You did understand that Mr. Newman had the appointment?—Yes; but I should at all times wish to consult the Goal Committee upon the subject; I want no appointment of any sort.

You have stated, that you believe no extortion is practised by the turnkeys; do you apprehend there is any by the wardsmen?—I know of none; I endeavour to check it all I can; the instance mentioned in the book before the Committee was no extortion by an officer of the prison, it was by a prisoner in the character of wardsman.

Will you say how the prison is divided in its various wards?—When I first took possession of the place, I certainly found the prison in a state, which in my mind, was not what I conceived a prison ought to be, because there was a mixture of the prisoners tried and untried and transports, in various parts of the prison, mixed altogether; the fact is, the turnkeys had the whole command of the prison, the keepers had no fixed station, and totally without system I therefore thought it best, under the existing circumstances, as I was placed there to manage the prison, to set about a plan to correct some of the evils that existed; I divided the prison into three stations, numbering them 1, 2, 3; the first station is wholly occupied by transports, and the further end of the third yard is occupied as an infirmary and convalescent wards, that was ordered to be done since by the Goal Committee and the Court of Aldermen. In the second station there are three yards, occupied by persons for fines, misdemeanors, and untried prisoners, and the further end of the passage leading to the cells, is for capital convicts. The third station is wholly occupied by females, the first yard and its appurtenances for convicted persons, and the adjoining yard and the appurtenances for untried females; having so divided the prison into three stations, I placed one principal turnkey to each station, with an under turnkey under him.

Do you mean that all the female convicts are together?—Transports and persons for fines and misdemeanors are together in the day, but sleep in different wards at night; we have always kept the prisoners in that state, by keeping the transports and the untried separate from each other.

Is there not in one of the yards a better place on the ground floor, where the tried and the untried of a superior class are all together?—When persons have come into the prison who have had a decent appearance, and carried with them some little degree of respectability, I have always confined them to that ward, at the same time telling them that they had nothing to pay any body, and if any money was attempted to be exacted from them, they were not to pay it, but to let me know.

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At the same time those persons had the common yard, with those who were under trial of the lowest description?—The same yard certainly; but I beg leave to observe, that the Gaol Committee are always disposed to do any thing that is represented to them, and I suggested to them the propriety of keeping one of those yards separate, by having an extra gate, by shutting up the gate at one end and opening the gate at the other, so as to keep all the decent persons that were for trial together, without mixing them with those of a different description; and this they ordered to be done.

But in the ward called smugglers ward, there have been accustomed to be persons who were tried as well as those who were untried?—It has happened that persons of the description alluded to, after trial, have solicited me to remain there, instead of being removed to the convict side of the prison; I have told them it was out of my power to do it, as they were convicted, without the Sheriff, the Lord Mayor, or any Magistrate chose to give me their sanction, and where that has happened they have been suffered to remain, as in the case now of Sir William Curtis's clerk.

And the man recently removed to the Penitentiary?—Yes; and also a man now under sentence of transportation, whose case is now under inquiry.

Do you not think, that when you have made that division, which you have already described, that you would have gained something very advantageous to the good management of the prison?—There is no question about it, and the Gaol Committee saw it in that light and ordered it.

It being at present a very great hardship upon persons of creditable appearance, and former good conduct, to associate with the lowest outcasts of society?—I have always had a feeling towards those people, where it was their first offence, I have always endeavoured to separate them as much as I could, from the worst class of offenders; in the first yard there are two day-rooms and two sleeping-rooms.

What is the size of the day-rooms and sleeping-rooms?—Near thirty-eight feet long, and fifteen feet wide each.

How many persons will they conveniently hold?—That is a matter of opinion.

What has been the average number of prisoners in them for the last twelve months?—I should think there are about forty-five prisoners in the two, twenty-three in one ward and nineteen in the other.

Is it not common to have thirty persons in each ward?—We have had more.

Has there not been sometimes fifty?—Not to my knowledge, not in my time; we have never had more than a hundred and ninety-four transports upon the average, and that is about the average now.

So that when there were thirty in each room, that would only give two feet for each prisoner?—Allowing two feet for each man to sleep, there is room for thirty-six; but I think that is not enough.

What is the size of the yard for exercise?—Forty-four feet by seventeen feet; then comes the second yard of the first station, which is for transports; also there are two day-rooms, and two sleeping-wards attached; they are twenty-four feet long, and fifteen broad; when I took the account of the prisoners, there were eighteen in each ward.

Do any of the prisoners sleep in the day-room when they are so crowded?—None.

Why not?—It is not intended for it; there is no accommodation, and it would be impossible it could be fit for them, as it would be so dirty and filthy.

Is the second yard ever fuller than it is at present?—Not since I have been there; the third yard consists of the infirmary, there are three wards used as infirmaries; the wards and the day-room are about thirty-eight feet long, and fifteen broad, each; then there is a room attached, used as a kitchen for the sick, where they cook their meat and broth, and the other adjoining room is the visiting room for their friends, to see the convalescents; in the three wards used as infirmaries, there are sixteen in one ward, seventeen in another, and fifteen in another.

Those are a mixture of prisoners?—Yes; for fines, for felonies, and misdemeanors; convicts, and untried.

Do you know the number of transports out of those three rooms?—I do not; I never kept an account of it.

Are untried prisoners in that infirmary as well as tried?—Yes; there is also another room that is shut up, which has been used for the purpose of accommodating convicts who come from all parts of the country, to go to Woolwich and elsewhere.

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What are the dimensions of that room?—I should suppose somewhere about twenty-four feet long and fifteen broad; when I took the dimensions, I only went into the rooms where there were prisoners; there is a room used for the purpose of a carpenter's shop; there is an apartment for the principal turnkey for that station, by which he commands the whole station, and over those are two rooms for the boys, what is called the school-room; they are twenty-four feet long by fifteen broad each.

How many boys are now in it?—Eighteen; at sessions time there is a variation, some are acquitted and do not return; there is also the turnkey's lodge, who has the charge of the main gate; there is also the kitchen, with two coppers for the making of soup, it was formerly the debtors lodge; there is also a room in which it is intended to erect some mills; in No. 2, station, there is one yard which is called the chapel yard, occupied by persons under sentence from the sessions of Middlesex; they are all Middlesex prisoners, for fines, for felonies, and misdemeanors.

You mean by the term "Fines," sentences of imprisonment for long or short periods?—Yes; six or twelve months, for uttering bad money, and various misdemeanors.

You include those who are for fines and imprisonments, and those for imprisonments for shorter periods?—Yes, the greater part of the fines are for uttering bad money; they are most of them Irish.

Are the tried and untried altogether?—No, they are not; sometimes when persons are committed charged for a misdemeanor, when they are decent, and have not any dirt or filth, I generally put them into the ward below, among the untried prisoners.

Have you any place in Newgate at this moment, in which you could place a respectable person who was committed there under sentence for a misdemeanor?—No other but in the yard, where the misdemeanors and fines are together.

So that if a person was convicted of a libel, he must be placed in that yard with the prisoners of the description mentioned?—I should not place such prisoner in that place, because I should endeavour to find out accommodation for him elsewhere.

Would you not put a person for a libel into the room that looks into the female side?—Certainly I should, which is now occupied as a store-room.

So that, in point of fact, you have no proper room for the confinement of a person for the misdemeanor mentioned?—Not unless he occupies that room.

If he occupied that room, it would be attended with great inconvenience?—Yes.

What inconvenience?—There being no yard, and there being only room for one person.

What number of wards are there belonging to the chapel yard?—In the chapel yard there is on the ground floor one small ward; there is one turnkey's apartment; and on the one pair there are two wards 20 feet long by 15 broad; the second pair there are two wards of the same dimensions.

Is the apartment on the ground floor opposite the turnkey's lodge, used as a day-room or a sleeping-room?—It is used as both; we have a prisoner employed at that inner gate who is called a gatesman, a well behaved transport, and he sleeps in this ward on the ground floor; and sometimes when we are full on that side, we are obliged to put two or three persons there to sleep; it will hold four very well.

Has he both the rooms on the ground floor?—No, only one; it is a small place, I do not know the dimensions.

Is there no day-room in common to the prisoners in the yard, or do they live in the rooms in which they sleep?—They live and sleep in the same wards on this side,

What are the numbers in these wards?—We have only thirty-six confined in that ward; we have had fifty; when I took the number a fortnight ago, I had five on the ground floor, fourteen and thirteen in the two wards in the first pair, and fourteen in one ward in the second pair, and the other was not used; I had that cleaned and taken for the three persons who are confined for a duel; that made forty-six, but there are now only thirty-six.

Is it possible to keep those wards as clean as they ought to be, when so many prisoners live there constantly the whole of the day, and sleep in the same apartment?—I should think not, but were the day-rooms separate from the wards they would be kept much cleaner; the persons chiefly confined in that situation are the lower orders of Irish, and it is difficult to keep them clean, they are so very dirty.

In point of fact, the persons in those yards have less accommodation, though they are

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are fines, than the convicts under sentence of transportation?—They have not a day-room; they have every thing else; but they are naturally so dirty in themselves, that they give more trouble than any other prisoners; it is impossible almost to keep them clean; the communication with them is such, that I have very often given them shoes, and when I have gone round and asked to see them, I have found that they were gone; they get them out somehow or other, by their friends coming to see them.

You have stated, that the principal prisoners confined there are for uttering bad money?—Yes, under the denomination of smashers.

Are there not at present three officers under sentence for a number of months, for a duel which has recently taken place?—Yes, there are three in one room.

Is there not a person there under sentence for attempting to commit an unnatural crime?—No, he is not on that side now; I think he is removed to the other side.

Have you ever had persons for that offence committed there?—Not since I have been there?

Have you not at present a prisoner for an attempt to commit a rape?—No; there is an old man there seventy-five years of age, a schoolmaster, who was indicted for an assault upon female children committed to his care, and he is sentenced to three years imprisonment. There are two or three also for a conspiracy.

Suppose you had now two or three sentences for an assault to commit an unnatural crime, would you not put them into that part of the prison?—I must put them there; I have no other place to put them.

The next is the press yard; the appurtenances there are two condemned day-rooms, for persons condemned and under sentence of death; sometimes we have had two sessions unreported, and then we have put them one sessions in one room, and the other in the other.

What is the size?—Thirty-one feet by eighteen feet.

What cells have you?—There are fifteen cells.

What is the size of those?—Nine feet by seven.

How many prisoners have you there now?—Fourteen.

How many have you had there since you have been there?—I have had between sixty and seventy; at one time upwards of seventy, and then I have been obliged to have them in the rooms.

What number of prisoners were ever confined in one cell?—Three; and that has been partly at their own request, because I have never wished more than two; but they have always applied to me to permit three, as they say they mess together, and they have felt it a degree of accommodation; and thinking it no impropriety, I have done it.

Would you allow three as the prison is at present?—No.

Had you three within a few weeks?—Yes.

There is but one bedstead in the cell; what is the size of it?—I know of no bedstead.

Is there not at the end of each cell a raised board?—A kind of barrack bedstead, and they have rugs to sleep upon, and sometimes their friends provide them something of a bed.

Two persons may lie in it?—Yes, and where there are three they lie across. Then comes the middle yard; we have one room on the ground floor, that is 38 feet long by 15 broad; that is the untried side as it is called; that is used as a sleeping ward. I put there all the men that are employed in work in the prison; the carpenters, and so on, because it is handy for them to go to their work, and they keep the ward so clean, and conduct themselves so properly; that when decent people have been committed, I have put them in that ward.

Are those carpenters transports?—All of them; there were nine in the room when I took it, but it will hold twice that number; there are four wards above of the same dimensions; they were vacant when I took this account, it being just after the sessions.

How many persons have you ever known in those wards?—The longest session we have is the Michaelmas session; and I believe we had on this untried side, about the middle of August, the best part of 300.

How many were in those four wards during the period you speak of?—About 120.

There is one yard for the prisoners that occupy those rooms?—Yes; in the next yard the ground floor is what is denominated the smugglers ward, that is 38 by 15; we had twelve prisoners then; we have not above six or seven now.

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What description of persons?—There is the wardsman, who is a transport; he was sentenced for death, was respited, was at last sentenced to be transported for seven years, and I apprehend he will be pardoned in a short time.

What was the crime?—Stealing privately in a shop.

Was not Haitch in that ward?—Yes; the reason that induced me to put him there, was that the wardsman was a well ordered man, though he is a transport; there was a prisoner under a charge of forgery, under six indictments; he had been an officer in the navy, and having attempted to destroy himself, I thought I could not place this Haitch in a better situation, than where there were two men already employed in watching this officer, whose name was Maher; Haitch's offence was of so great magnitude, I was obliged to put him there, having no where else to put him; he was an untried prisoner.

What other prisoners have you there?—There are three transports; Sir William Curtis's clerk, and two others who are there by application from the Sheriffs. I beg to mention, that Maher has made another attempt to destroy himself; the rooms above are part of the four wards I have described before; on the left hand side on the ground floor, is the assistant to the turnkey's room, on the other side the visiting room; this man lives there, and is constantly employed in looking after the untried prisoners; above stairs one pair there are three wards, one is 19 feet by 15, the other 20 feet by 15, the other 14 by 15; above stairs the same number of wards of the same size; when I took the account there were sixty-three prisoners in these wards; between these yards there are under the chapel three cells, which are used for persons the night previous to their execution.

And only occupied then?—No; I believe not.

Have you ever confined refractory prisoners there?—Where prisoners have been guilty of pilfering from one another, we have put them in there for two or three hours.

Are they of a worse description than the other condemned cells?—Much of the same size; they are very airy. The third station is wholly occupied by females; in the first yard on the ground floor, there is a great day-room, about 38 feet long by 15 broad, and there is a small room adjoining, which will hold about six; the visiting room adjoins that, and over this visiting-room is the store-room that I have described, where I should put persons convicted for libel; it is a very good sized square room, I should think 15 feet square at least; then over that is the turnkey's apartment for that station, which overlooks all the female side; on this side, one pair, there are two wards for the untried prisoners to sleep, which are 38 by 15, in which there are only twenty prisoners confined; the two pair is used as a female infirmary, and on the left hand side of the wards, the first pair, is a little room, what we call the school, the room of the infirmary being one room divided into two, is 38 by 15.

Have you not a room there for the females sentenced to death?—No, that is on the other side.

How many have you ever known in this infirmary at a time?—I cannot recollect; we have at this time, ten only; there is a small yard attached to this side; but when the prison is very full of women, particularly in the Summer time, we always open the gate to let them walk in the yard that goes down to the bail dock, which gives them air and exercise; on the other side there is a principal yard; at the south end, on the ground-floor, there are two day-rooms; I do not exactly know the dimensions; there are over them two rooms, one is 22 feet by 15, and the other 10 by 15; at that time there were twenty-seven prisoners slept in those wards, which I calculate, allowing only two feet for each person, would hold only thirty-one; then over those two sleeping-rooms, is what we call the work-room, where the ladies assemble, and hear the prisoners read; then at the west end, there is one little room, which is kept entirely for female prisoners under sentence of death, what we call the condemned female room, and there are two day-rooms adjoining, over which there are three sleeping wards for females, 18 feet by 15, 10 by 15, and 9 by 15, and there were then thirty-one prisoners confined in them; I think they will hold, allowing two feet for each, thirty-seven, that is the first pair; then over those, there are three wards of the same dimensions, one of which is used as the matron's apartment, the other two are sleeping wards for the prisoners, one 18 feet by 15, the other 10 by 15.

What are the general allowances of food by order of the Court?—Two pounds of meat a week for each prisoner, without bone; allowed every Wednesday and Saturday.

What bread?—Sixteen ounces of bread a day, it was fourteen; that is the present mode; but with respect to meat, the allowance will undergo a considerable alteration in the course of a week.

Does this allowance appear to you sufficient?—That I am not able to judge of; to

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to persons who have no friends to furnish them with other things, it is a scanty allowance.

When men are limited to that allowance have you not observed that their strength has diminished?—I have; it very often happens that gentlemen come and leave me two or three pounds, to distribute to persons in distress; when that is the case I never give it in money, but when I find out the distressed, I give them potatoes or something of that sort, which I find better than money.

Is the meat ever distributed in half pounds?—No; it is cut in junks, according to the number of persons in the wards, and then served out to each person in pounds; there are scales and weights for the purpose.

You spoke of a fund you had there; are there not funds you have from the different City companies?—I have never had any; I have never had more than four or five pounds at a time.

Is any sum of money put into your hand to distribute by the Sheriff?—No; they distribute it themselves, which they give in the way of clothing. I understand the Sheriffs used formerly to give so many stone of meat a week.

Is the proposed alteration you speak of an increase?—It will be a wonderful alteration, and will produce beneficial effects.

Of what kind is that alteration?—By cooking their meat and giving them soup.

Are any broken victuals now distributed among the prisoners?—It comes occasionally from the different taverns, and then it is distributed where it is most wanted.

That is very irregular?—Yes; and very scanty.

Describe what orders you have received to provide for the prisoners in future?—Some time ago the Gaol Committee ordered that there should be coppers put up, for the purpose of cooking victuals for the prisoners, and I was desired by the Gaol Committee to make out a statement of the best and cheapest mode of cooking soup for the prisoners; accordingly I resorted to the practice used in different gaols and other places, and upon reporting that to the Committee, they ordered every alternate day to have meat, and the other days a quart of soup.

What meat?—Eight ounces without vegetables.

Is that the allowance which is now granted in Giltspur-Street Compter?—Yes, the same allowance; in point of fact it will be reduced to six ounces by boiling, it is twenty-four ounces purchased and reduced to eighteen.

Do you mean to say, that the Committee have ordered that the meat shall be lessened?—They have supplied the deficiency with Scotch barley.

What is the quantity of meat for each prisoner to be boiled?—Eight ounces for each prisoner, four days one week, and three days the other.

Then they hereby have seven half-pounds in a fortnight instead of eight?—Yes; they are to have to every gallon of liquor in which the meat is boiled, half a pound of Scotch barley, which is very nutritious, and a proportion of onions, turnips and potatoes, and salt and pepper in proportion, to season it.

What is the proposed daily allowance to each prisoner in bread and soup?—There will be no alteration in the bread, and a quart of soup a day, and meat alternate days; in addition to that, we are to give them a pint of gruel for breakfast, which will be an ounce and a half of oatmeal, and a quarter of an ounce of salt.

Has there been any complaint on the part of the prisoners, since it has been changed from white bread to brown?—Not so much latterly as at first.

At first it was not so good as now, it has recently become better?—It has.

Then there are not more complaints of the bread since it has been brown than there was before?—Yes; prisoners have complained to me that it did not agree with them.

Were there not very constant complaints before?—Yes, a great many; but the great complaint is of its colour.

What bedding is allowed in the first station?—We have a supply of rugs for the men to sleep on, but the men have no mats at all; on the women's side we have mats enough to allow two mats for three prisoners to sleep on; the women and men have had three rugs a piece all the winter.

There has been no regular supply?—No.

Are the men supplied with mats in the same way as the women?—Certainly not.

Are there in point of fact hardly any for them?—Very few indeed; there may be twenty throughout the prison.

They sleep either on the floor, or on one of the rugs, which has been furnished them?—Yes.

Are those rugs, generally speaking, in good order?—Generally speaking they are; and

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and if they are out of order, we generally take them away, and use them in making mops, and supply them with others.

Have there not been this month many complaints, that their rugs were in a tattered condition?—They have not made any complaints; whenever they have, they have had new rugs as soon as they could be got.

Have you never had any in store, so that you could supply them when they were wanted?—No; but we always supply them when they are wanted.

Who supplies them?—The Committee of City Lands, at the instance of the Sheriffs. I applied to the Committee of City Lands, and stated, that we wished to have a supply of rugs for the winter, for ours were getting very old; the prisoners will destroy them very fast, if they are not looked after. The Committee took a view of the prison, and they ordered a supply of rugs; they did say, there should be a supply of mats for the prisoners to sleep upon, that it would be the subject of consideration.

In point of fact, do the mats collect a great deal of dirt?—Certainly not; in the summer time, when I took the situation, I took the liberty of having some rules printed, and one of the rules was, that the mats and rugs should be taken out and beat twice a week; but there is no fear of vermin in those mats, for we use tar, and the materials they are composed of is an antidote against vermin; the bottom of the mats is a composition that keeps out all vermin; they are the cleanest thing that can be used.

Each prisoner, if he has a bed of his own, may bring it into the prison?—We never refuse it.

But the practice of letting out beds is totally abolished?—Yes, totally; there may be an instance of it by a wardsman, but then it is soon discovered, and checked in a moment; I will not suffer it, if I can prevent it.

Are the rugs shook every day?—No, they are shook twice a week, we do not like to expose them too much this weather; in summer they are, but the windows are opened every day, so that the rooms are well ventilated.

Do not the rugs harbour a great deal of dirt?—I do not see that they do; the old rugs we only use for those prisoners who are very dirty when they come in, and we keep the new rugs for prisoners who are likely to stay.

As to clothing, is there any allowed?—I know of no regular allowance, but I have had in that prison from the Court of Aldermen, on their account, from July the 28th to the 21st of February, 24 shirts, 146 pair of shoes, 120 pair of stockings, 400 new rugs, and 66 mats.

What have you received from the Sheriffs?—There have been several gifts; the Sheriffs have sent in twelve dozen pair of shoes and some stockings, of which I have kept no regular account, but this month I have received 102 jackets on account of the late Sheriffs, 96 pair of drawers, 114 shirts, 127 pair of shoes, and 126 pair of stockings, the greater part of which have been delivered.

Was it sent out of their own private pockets, or out of what is called the Sheriffs Fund?—I do not know.

At the same time, even with the supply that you have mentioned, are not the prisoners at times in great distress for want of clothes?—They are so; and in many instances, the clothes that have been given to those prisoners have been got rid of, in the course of the next day.

Are not their persons generally very dirty?—Yes, many of them.

Is not this circumstance, in your opinion, an additional reason for classing the prisoners?—Most undoubtedly; and that could very easily be effected had we less transports; half the prisoners are transports.

Could not the prevention of their sale of clothes be accomplished by the same means?—Yes, by adopting the same means, by excluding the visitors from going to the interior of the prison, and only permitting them to go to the visiting room; I have no doubt if that was done, the use of irons would be considerably lessened.

And in many cases entirely unnecessary?—Yes; for this reason, the constant influx of visitors to the interior of the prison, renders it necessary we should iron untried prisoners to prevent their escape. It is easy for a man to escape in women's clothes if he had no irons on, but if he had irons, they would jingle; at present we are obliged to iron them to prevent their escape. There was a very great indiscrimination

mination of visitors allowed to go into the interior of the prison at one time; but within these six months I issued an order to this effect:—

"IN consequence of a greater number of persons applying to visit the prisoners than usual;

"It is Ordered, by the Keeper, That none but a Father, Mother or Wife, will be admitted into the interior of the prison; and a wife must either produce a certificate of her marriage, or bring forward some satisfactory proofs that she is so.

"Relations will also be admitted, by bringing forward satisfactory proofs of their relationship.

"Every facility will be given to those for trial, to see such friends as may be necessary for their defence.

"Printed Orders for admission will be given by the Keeper, every morning from nine till ten o'clock."

The consequence of this has been, that prostitutes have been excluded in a great measure.

On the 9th of December there is a complaint, in the Occurrence Book, by Thomas Tidmarsh, under-turnkey, against women admitted by regular orders to certain men, their character and conduct being of the most improper description; in consequence of this report, they are not to be admitted into the interior of the gaol: By whose order were they admitted?—They got in by some means or other; perhaps by the order of the Sheriffs; (the late Sheriffs.) The present Sheriffs have said, "Though they bring an order from us, we give you a discretionary power whether you will admit them."

Are not the men and women transports furnished with clothes before they go?—The women; not the men. I have never had but one removal of women to go to New South Wales, and that was in May last.

Describe the clothing.—I cannot now; they had three things of a sort; they had every accommodation they could wish for for the voyage.

What had the men got?—Nothing; but when transports are going away, if they want shoes or stockings, I have given them some; and if they have been badly clothed, I have given them an old watchman's great-coat.

There is no regular clothing?—No; because they give them clothing on board the hulks.

Have you thought it necessary to report the want of clothing to the Sheriffs or the Magistrates?—I have frequently done it, and they have sent in things in consequence.

On the 16th of December there is a regular report of the want of clothing; when did you communicate that to the Sheriffs or the Visiting Magistrates?—I cannot say the precise time, but whenever there is a want of clothing I mention it.

It appears by the book before the Committee, that on Christmas-day stockings and shoes were given to several prisoners in great distress, and on the 29th of January, there was also delivered to those prisoners most distressed, thirty-four pair of shoes, seventeen pair of stockings; and on Tuesday, February the 3d, eight jackets, five pair of drawers, seventeen shirts, five pair of stockings, and seven pair of shoes; did that supply, according to the best of your recollection, answer the wants of the prisoners?—I do not think it did in toto; it was a temporary supply; some who had shoes and stockings wanted other things, sometimes there are 150 persons who want shoes and stockings.

Is the book, out of which the above statement is taken, your Occurrence Book?—That is the Occurrence Book, kept by the turnkey, who reports to me daily the occurrences of the preceding day, and I report to the Sheriffs when they go round; but I think they have in general, as far as their funds would admit, given me a supply.

Veneris, 27° *die Februarii*, 1818.

MR. ALDERMAN WOOD, in the Chair.

Mrs. *Elizabeth Fry*; called in and Examined.

Mrs. *Elizabeth Fry.*

ABOUT what time was it when you first visited Newgate, and established a Committee of Ladies to visit the female prisoners?—It is rather more than a year since I first established a school for the children of the convicts; I did not undertake the care of the convicts in general till about two months afterwards; their children first attracted my attention.

Have the goodness to relate what you did with regard to the children?—I will represent the various circumstances of the case. In visiting the prison which I had been occasionally in the habit of doing for several years, I very much lamented to see children so much exposed among those very wicked women, and I understood that the first language they began to lisp was generally oaths or very bad expressions; it therefore struck me how important it would be to separate them from the convicts, and to have them put in a small apartment by themselves under the care of a school-mistress, provided it met with the approbation of the women themselves; for I always approved acting in concert with them in whatever I did; I represented my views to the mothers, and they with tears in their eyes, said, "Oh, how thankful we should be for it," for they knew so much the miseries of vice, that they hoped their children would never be trained up in it.

Did they all consent?—They consented in the most cordial manner, with tears of gratitude.

Relate the manner in which you established the school?—It occurred to me that I had much better, if possible, get a governess from amongst themselves, if I could find one that I deemed worthy of placing that confidence in; and I perceived that the women were so deeply interested in the subject, that I consulted them, whether there was any one I could trust with the care of the children, and they very soon recommended a young woman to me, whom I established as their governess; with some little difficulty I obtained an apartment; the Sheriffs, Bridges and Kirby, kindly listened to my request, and allowed me to look out in the prison whether there was any place I could make use of for the purpose, and one being pointed out by me they acceded to my request; as soon as this was done the poor young prisoners, the young convicts themselves came to entreat that I would also take care of them, saying, that they should be very glad to be admitted into our school; and if they could be reformed also, what comfort it would give them, therefore I allowed several young women to join the school, which prospered beyond all expectation; the order and regularity that was preserved, and the progress that the young people and children made in learning to read, and in other branches in which we had them instructed, as working and knitting, was highly satisfactory.

Did they return to their wards at night?—Of course, there was no accommodation to prevent that, which was a very lamentable thing, because they lost at night what they gained in the day. It was in our visits to the school, where we some of us attended almost every day, that we were witnesses to the dreadful proceedings that went forward on the female side of the prison; the begging, swearing, gaming, fighting, singing, dancing, dressing up in mens clothes; the scenes are too bad to be described, so that we did not think it suitable to admit young persons with us.

Was drunkenness observed?—I cannot say that it was frequently; they knew so much the hours we were there, that we saw nothing of it; we attended the school just in the day hours.

Have you any doubt that drunkenness was to a great extent?—I have no doubt that it exists now at times, and I dare say it did at that period, but we none of us witnessed or knew of it, because we had not a matron on the spot to see what went forward; one particularly undesirable thing was, that between the gratings, which are useful in preventing their having quite such free intercourse with the city as formerly, the women would be on one side begging or conversing improperly, and the

other

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other side used to be continually filled with men; and I am confident, that what was extremely improper took place.

The men were separated by an iron railing?—Yes, about a yard distant.

Used not the women to fasten spoons to the end of sticks, by which means they had communication with the persons who were opposite to them?—Constantly; it was at this time that it struck me what a very lamentable thing it was, that a prison should be thus, what I should call a school for every vice which could be committed there; I thought it might be remedied; and the reason I thought so was, that our plan of reformation seemed so much to delight the women, and we received so many applications to be taken into our school (without having room to take them) that I thought it desirable to form a system of regulations that they should all submit to, and to have them all instructed; I was discouraged by several of our friends best acquainted with the prison, and connected with its management, and who said it *never* could be accomplished; that if we got them work, we should have it immediately stolen; and that if we formed regulations, they might be obeyed for a week, but they would be broken almost daily, and for a number of ladies to think of ruling women, whom they themselves could not govern, was out of the question; however, I said, perhaps to oblige me they would let me try, in company with a very valuable committee of ladies. I made application to the Sheriffs, and they said, to oblige me, they would meet all the tried prisoners one morning, and we might represent what we had in prospect, to see whether it met their approbation or not, for I said I never would undertake it unless they entirely concurred in it; consequently they had them collected, and I believe, to the great surprise of the gentlemen who accompanied us, there was not one dissenting voice; they would submit to any rule whatever which we should propose, if we would only give them employment and instruct them; of course we thought it better not to delay; and room being afforded us, and leave given us to introduce a matron (which I think essential in the care of female prisoners, that they should be taken care of by women) we commenced.

You applied to the Committee of the Court of Aldermen?—Not at first; I thought it better to try the experiment for a month, and then to ask them whether they would second us, and adopt our measures as their own; we therefore assembled our women, read over our rules, brought them work, knitting and other things, and our institution commenced; it has now been about ten months; our rules have certainly been occasionally broken, but very seldom; order has been generally observed; I think I may say we have full power amongst them, for one of them said it was more terrible to be brought up before me than before the judge, though we use nothing but kindness; I have never punished a woman during the whole time, or even proposed a punishment to them; and yet I think it is impossible, in a well regulated house, to have rules more strictly attended to than they are, as far as I order them, or our friends in general. With regard to our work, they have made nearly twenty thousand articles of wearing apparel, the generality of which is supplied by the slop shops, which pays very little. Excepting three out of this number of articles that were missing, which we really do not think owing to the women, we have never lost a single thing. They knit from about sixty to a hundred pair of stockings and socks every month; they spin a little. The earnings of their work, we think, average about eighteen-pence per week for each person. This is generally spent in assisting them to live, and helping to clothe them. For this purpose they subscribe, out of their small earnings of work, about four pounds a month, and we subscribe about eight, which keeps them covered and decent. Another very important point is, the excellent effect we have found to result from religious education; our habit is constantly to read the Scriptures to them twice a day; many of them are taught, and some of them have been enabled to read a little themselves; it has had an astonishing effect; I never saw the Scriptures received in the same way, and to many of them they have been entirely new, both the great system of religion and of morality contained in them; and it has been very satisfactory to observe the effect upon their minds; when I have sometimes gone and said it was my intention to read, they would flock up stairs after me, as if it was a great pleasure I had to afford them.

You have confined yourself to reading the Scriptures, and pointing out generally the moral lessons that might be derived from them?—Yes, generally so.

Without inculcating any peculiar doctrine?—Nothing but the general Scripture doctrine; in short, they are not capable of receiving any other.

Nothing but the morals of the Scripture; the duties towards God and man?—

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That is all; we are very particular in endeavouring to keep close to that; we consider, from the situation we fill, as it respects the public as well as the poor creatures themselves, that it would be highly indecorous to press any peculiar doctrine of any kind, any thing beyond the fundamental doctrines of scripture. We have had considerable satisfaction in observing not only the improved state of the women in the prison, but we understand, from the Governor and Clergyman at the Penitentiary, that those who have been under our care are very different from those who came from other prisons. We also may state, that where they left Newgate to go to Botany Bay, such a thing was never known in the prison before, as the quietness and order with which they left it; instead of tearing down every thing and burning it, it was impossible to leave it more peaceably; and as a proof that their moral and religious instruction had had some effect upon their minds. When those poor creatures were going to Botany Bay, the little fund we allow them to collect for themselves, in a small box under our care, they entreated that it might be all given to those that were going, those who remained saying, that they wished to give up their little share of the profit to the others.

Do you know any thing of the room and accommodation for the women in 1815?—I do not; I did not visit it in that year.

What was it, in 1817?—Not nearly room enough; if we had room enough to class them, I think a very great deal more might be accomplished; we labour very much in the day, and we see the fruit of our labour; but if we could separate them in the night, I do think that we could not calculate upon the effect which would be produced.

At present, those convicted for all offences pass the day together?—Very much so; very much intermixed old and young, hardened offenders with those who have committed only a minor offence, or the first crimes; the very lowest of women with respectable married women and maid servants. It is more injurious than can be described in its effects and in its consequences. One little instance to prove how beneficial it is to take care of the prisoners, is afforded by the case of a poor woman, for whom we have obtained a pardon (Lord Sidmouth having been very kind to us whenever we have applied for a mitigation of punishment since our committee has been formed). We taught her to knit in the prison; she is now living respectably out of it, and in part gains her livelihood by knitting; we generally endeavour to provide for them in degree when they go out. One poor woman to whom we lent money, comes every week to my house and pays two shillings, as honestly and as punctually as we can desire. We give part and lend part, to accustom them to habits of punctuality and honesty.

Is that woman still in Newgate whose husband was executed, and she herself condemned to death, having eight children?—She is.

Has not her character been very materially changed since she has been under your care?—I heard her state to a gentleman going through the other day, that it had been a very great blessing to her to be at Newgate, and I think there has been a very great change in her; her case is now before Lord Sidmouth, but we could hardly ask for her immediate liberation.

You have informed the Committee that you use no punishment nor threat of punishment?—I have not done it myself; but I should state, that after we tried our experiment about a month, we thought it right to represent to the Gaol Committee, consisting of Alderman Wood, who was then Lord Mayor, and the Court of Aldermen, what we had done, and we requested them to make our rules as much as they could the laws of the prison, and to take our matron as their servant, as we wished it to be a regular institution in the prison, that the women should be superintended by a woman. They very kindly visited us themselves; and we met them at the Mansion House, and they agreed to take our matron. Then they gave us leave to punish; they said we should perhaps find it necessary, and if we did, they advised our putting the offenders into a solitary cell for two or three days, which we were at liberty to do; and I think it may have been done in the course of ten months, about four times.

What reward or hope of reward do you hold out?—Rewards form one part of our plan. They not only have the earnings of their work, but we endeavour to stimulate them by a system of marks. We divide our women into classes, with a monitor over every class, and our matron at the head; it is the duty of every monitor to take up to the matron every night, an account of the conduct of her class, which is set down; and if they have a certain number, what we call good marks, at the end of any fixed

period,

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period, they have for rewards such prizes as we think proper to give them, generally small articles of clothing, or bibles and testaments.

Is that the whole system, so far as rewards are concerned?—They have no other rewards, except occasional small presents.

The hope of pardon is not implied?—In a degree, Lord Sidmouth wished me to represent to them, that if their conduct was very good, and we could bring him that account of it, he would be very glad to listen to our wishes respecting the mitigation of punishment; they are quite aware of that. In short, I think it is the least I can do to acknowledge, that we have had the kindest assistance, both from the Sheriffs of London, the Court of Aldermen, when we have asked them for it, and also from Lord Sidmouth and his assistant, John Henry Capper.

Your views have been uniformly forwarded by all those persons?—Yes, I think they have in every instance. With regard to our matron, the Court of Aldermen have in great part undertaken to remunerate her, although we are obliged to add to her salary. No gentlewoman would stay with these women unless she was very handsomely paid.

Have the goodness to state what she receives?—The Court of Aldermen allow the matron a guinea a week, and we allow her 20 *l.* a-year in addition, besides several other things.

You know perhaps what food is allowed, as the prison allowance?—They are allowed a pound of brown bread, or fourteen ounces of white, daily, and a pound of meat twice a week; and when they are sick, every thing that is needful; they are taken excellent care of in case of real illness.

Do you think that the general allowance above-mentioned is sufficient?—I do not think that it is sufficient to keep any person in health.

From your observation in that prison, unless you and your friends had supported persons in that prison who were without other means of obtaining subsistence, do you not think their health would have suffered?—I am confident of it, because I have witnessed it; some are certainly brought in in a poor state of health; some of them have been in habits of drinking, and so on. Four women have died in ten months, and four children; since we had the care of them, I have been particular to inquire whether these persons had assistance from their friends, or whether they had been able to do much work in the prison for their own support. I found all those who died had been without assistance from their friends, and had been able to do but little work.

In your observation, do they get considerable assistance from out of doors?—Very considerable indeed; some far too much.

Even luxuries?—Yes, luxuries; even poultry sometimes; that we think very improper for prisons; for prisons should not be made palaces, but they ought to have sufficient.

So that it might happen, that while one class of persons should have too much, there might be some in the prison who, without your help, would be suffering under famine?—I am sure of it, without the assistance of their work.

Did you mean that they would be in a state of famine?—Famine would be too strong, but they would be in a very poor state; they get very thin, they look very pale, and very frequently become dropsical, which is a sign of poverty of blood; three have died dropsical out of the four women I have mentioned,

So that you have little doubt, that cases have happened in which persons have lost their lives from the deficiency of food?—I think, if they had been in good health when they first went in, they hardly would have lost their lives; but I think, if they had had sufficient nourishment during their residence in the prison, their lives might have been saved.

Be so good as to state, as nearly as you can, what proportion of the women, without your assistance, would be in a state of extreme want?—It is difficult to say; but I think we average the number of eighty tried women; perhaps out of that number twenty may live very well, twenty very badly, and the others are supported by their friends, in some degree; when I say twenty who live very well, perhaps I mention too large a number; perhaps not above ten. I think their receiving support from out of doors is most injurious, as it respects their moral principle and every thing else, as it respects the welfare of the city. Here are some very poor people will almost starve at home, and be induced to do that which is wrong, in order to keep their poor relations who are in prison; it is an unfair tax on such poor people; in addition to which, it keeps up an evil communication, and, what is more, I believe they often really encourage the crime by it for which they are put into prison; for

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these very people, and especially the coiners and the passers of bank-notes, are supported by their associates in crime; so that it really tends to keep up their bad practices.

Do not the Bank allow all their prisoners a certain sum of money per week?—They do to many of them, which I have represented to the Governor of the Bank of England, and I think it is a very undesirable thing.

Be good enough to say how much it is?—They allow the women five shillings a week.

Have you been informed there is some alteration likely to take place in the mode of dieting the prisoners?—I have, and am glad to hear of it.

That is to say, that meat is to be stewed or boiled down into broth; that the meat will be served one day, with broth the other?—I understand so.

What is your opinion, whether it would be more beneficial to their health than the mode in which they have it now?—I think it will be far better for them; meat cooked goes much further than when it is uncooked; but I think it would be a still greater improvement, if, in addition to this meat, they had plenty of potatoes; they are very nutritious, very cheap, and, I think, tend greatly to health.

Are you aware, that it is the intention of the Committee of the Court of Aldermen that they should have gruel every morning; does that meet your approbation?—That is an excellent plan.

Your approbation is given to a plan which shall give to the prisoners better provisions, and a greater quantity than they have at present?—Certainly. A sufficient quantity for them to be kept in health. In this city, and in every other large city, the constitution is liable to be lowered, and therefore more support is necessary than in the country, where there is fine air; that is almost nourishment in itself; there is necessarily a poverty of constitution in cities, and the distress of confinement really causes them to want more.

You have been asked, whether better provisions should be granted; is the provision you have seen good; is the meat good or otherwise?—It fluctuates very much; sometimes it is very good of its kind, but sometimes it is not good.

Do you speak of the meat or the bread?—Of both; the meat is of inferior quality, but it is generally good of its kind. I have bought some similar to it at three-pence or four-pence a pound, when I have wished to give some of the poor prisoners a dinner; but I give eight-pence for that which I use for my own table.

What description of meat is brought into the prison?—That which I bought for them is called the mouse buttock, which is a nice nourishing part.

That which is bought is called the sticking piece?—Yes, I believe it is.

Since the brown bread has been baked by order of the Court of Aldermen, at Giltspur-street Compter, how has the bread been?—I very much approve the plan of its being made and baked as it is at Giltspur-street Compter; but I have thought it was too coarse, and from mistakes in the yeast and other things latterly, it has been some of it sour; but some bread I saw the other day appeared to me very fair.

It has recently ceased to be baked in tins?—It has; and that is an improvement.

Do the prisoners complain of the brown bread disagreeing with them?—They do.

Have they their choice of white or brown?—No.

Is it your opinion that less nourishment is contained in the brown bread than in the white; and that those with whom the brown bread agrees are less nourished proportionably?—It is my opinion; but it may not be a right one.

You know that of the brown bread they have sixteen ounces?—Yes.

Therefore they have an eighth part more weight?—They have.

Have they the alternative offered them of fourteen ounces of white or sixteen ounces of brown?—They have not; I think it would not be right they should have it offered them.

The Committee are to understand, that fourteen ounces of white bread are no longer given, but in their place, sixteen ounces of brown?—Yes, the women do not like brown, but there is a great deal in habit; in London it is not the habit to eat brown bread; one of the poor women, who was executed lately, complained that it disagreed with her constitution.

Do you recollect any person suffering from the change from brown bread to white?—We have not had that change.

Supposing

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Supposing a person to have come from the country, and to have been accustomed to brown bread, that might have occurred?—Yes, certainly.

In your recollection, have there not been great complaints against the white bread?—Very frequently great complaints.

You do not recollect their having said that it disagreed with them?—No.

In your own family, have you not occasionally had reason to complain of your baker's not supplying you with such bread as you approve?—Certainly; I think the Court of Aldermen are not in the least to blame about the quality of the bread which comes from the baker's, but only those who have supplied it; they have always desired to have the best bread of its kind. It is my opinion, that the best bread which could be given them generally, would be what is called in the country "household bread," not quite white, but less coarse than that which they now have, but they ought to have it in greater quantities.

Would it not be a desirable regulation, that the surgeon should have the means of recommending the use of white bread for particular prisoners, who are not in the infirmary?—I think it would be an advantage, as there are some with whom no other bread will agree; I believe the women, generally, would rather have a larger quantity, not quite so fine as white bread, than return to their fourteen ounces.

Are the women subject to dysentery, after being put upon brown bread?—They are sometimes; I do not think it is fair to compare women, situated as they are, with ourselves; I have heard some say, they would not dislike such bread at their own tables; but it ought to be considered, that we have many other things to eat besides brown bread.

Unless the case of dysentery is dangerous, the women are not removed into the infirmary?—Certainly not, unless they are very ill; those who are not very ill, we attend to ourselves.

Have they any kind of liquid allowed them, such as beer?—They have a great deal of porter sent in by their friends; the prison allowance is nothing but water, excepting when they are ill; when, as I stated before, they want for no good thing, they even have wine; we have had a woman ill lately, who has had wine allowed her.

Is fermented liquor introduced into the gaol?—We see a good deal of beer, and I cannot doubt that spirits are introduced, notwithstanding all the care which is taken to prevent it; but whilst they must depend upon their friends to clothe them and feed them, in great part, spirits will be introduced; great care is taken to prevent it, and those who come in are well searched; I am sure that spirits are nevertheless brought in, as far as I can depend upon the testimony of my most confidential women.

Are some of them supplied with very large quantities of beer?—One girl had lately ten shillings worth in one day.

How lately was that?—Three or four weeks ago.

She got it in under the names of other prisoners; did she not?—I suppose so.

Is there any rule to limit the quantity each individual should have:—I believe there is, but I think the Aldermen know that better than I do; the girl of course threw a great deal of it away; she was so terribly intoxicated she was almost mad.

Do you know, that sometimes they will give a very high price for it to other prisoners?—I do not know that; but if there was not this communication with their friends, this would not happen; the unfortunate young woman whom I have mentioned had been kept by a gentleman, who gave her the money; it was in this way that she laid it out.

He was not admitted into the prison?—No.

He stood without, and conveyed the money by a spoon, or in some mode, perhaps?—Of course, persons can convey money to them; money they are allowed to receive.

Should you say, that intoxication was frequent among the women?—By no means frequent; I have lately visited the prison in the evenings, and gone in unexpectedly, and I have never witnessed drunkenness in any of my visits of late years; when I visited Newgate three years ago, I have seen them take the gin and drink it off quite freely; there were certainly great improvements in Newgate previous to our having anything to do with it.

Do you know whether there is any clothing allowed by the City?—Not any; whenever we have applied or mentioned any thing about clothing, we have always found that there was no other resource but our own, excepting that the Sheriffs used to clothe the prisoners occasionally. Lately, nobody has clothed them but ourselves; except that the late Sheriffs sent us the other day a present of a few things to make up for them.

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There is no regular clothing allowed?—It appears to me that there is none of any kind.

Have you never had prisoners there who have suffered materially for want of clothing?—I could describe such scenes as I should hardly think it delicate to mention. We had a woman the other day on the point of lying-in, brought to bed not many hours after she came in; she had hardly a covering, no stockings, and only a thin gown. Whilst we are there we can never see a woman in that state, without immediately applying to our fund.

When they are brought in they come naked almost?—This woman came in, and we had to send her up almost every article of clothing, and to clothe her baby; she could not be tried the next sessions, but after she had been tried, and when she was discharged, she went out comfortably clothed; and there are many such instances.

Has it not happened, that when gentlemen have come in to see the prison, you have been obliged to stand before the women who were in the prison in a condition not fit to be seen?—Yes; I remember one instance in which I was obliged to stand before one of the women to prevent her being seen. We sent down to the matron immediately to get her clothes.

How long had that woman been in the gaol?—Not long; for we do not, since we have been there, suffer them to be a day without being clothed.

This woman had come into the gaol the day before?—Most likely.

There is no fund which you can rely upon for clothing those women but your own pockets?—Except the pockets of our friends; they have assisted us of course.

You have made a subscription amongst your friends?—We have; those gentlemen to whom we have applied, have subscribed some of them very handsomely.

Do not the Sheriffs give you any sum towards the clothing of the prisoners?—The late Sheriffs when they found how well we succeeded with the women, came to me one day and very kindly gave me forty pounds, out of the sheriffs fund, towards the clothing of the women. It was about half the expense of their clothing for one half year, and would have been expended on that object by the Sheriffs themselves, had they not thought that it would be laid out better by our committee. This "Sheriff's Fund," appears to me to be a very objectionable source to look to, because it fluctuates so much. When the present Sheriffs came in, I asked them whether they would like to adopt the same plan as the former Sheriffs. Nothing can be kinder or more ready than they are to assist us. They said, "we should be happy to assist you, but we have nothing to clothe them with." We cannot suffer them to remain unclothed, and therefore do it from our own fund.

Then, the forty pounds given by the late Sheriffs was not out of their own pockets, but out of the Sheriff's fund?—They told me, I think, out of the Sheriff's fund. I should also state, that the late Sheriffs finding something left of their fund, very kindly sent the women a present of various articles of clothing, probably to the extent of about £.20. There is also another thing, the supply of which entirely depends upon the Sheriff's fund; in my opinion very improperly, that is, the soap. There is no soap allowed in that prison to clean any body or any thing, but as this fluctuating fund provides it. Sometimes they have soap and sometimes they have not; cleanliness is so very important, that it seems an essential in a prison, and therefore ought not to depend on an uncertainty.

Are not the convicts all clothed with double dresses when they are sent away from prison on board the hulks?—They are, when they go to Botany Bay.

By order of the Court of Aldermen?—I think they are; we provided all their linen on the late occasion, and the Court of Aldermen paid the bill.

What do you consider as the expense of a suit of clothing?—One pound; or perhaps a very little more. There is another thing which I ought to state; the grand juries on going round are always liberal, they have occasionally contributed to our fund. Had it not been for these, and other such charitable donations, the prison could not have been brought into its present state.

In what state has the gaol been in as to cleanliness since you have attended it?—Considering how very crowded we almost always are, it is as clean as we can expect; but where a ward is washed out, and perhaps thirty women cooking and washing, and every thing going forward in the same room, it is what I should call dirty in about an hour afterwards.

Have you any place for the women to wash their clothes and themselves in, except the rooms in which they live?—No other except little passages.

Have you heard that a new system of cooking is going to be introduced?—Yes; I think that a great advantage.

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If that were introduced the inconvenience arising from their own cooking would be done away?—I think so; but if some plan could be devised to have the Sheriff's fund quite altered, and that there should be some provision for clothing and soap quite regularly, it would be a very important thing; it should not depend upon that which is so fluctuating.

What provision is there for towels?—Not the least.

Or for basons?—Not the least; and when we consider that in a few years we shall none of us that now take care of them be here, how important is it to have those things established; it is not for the purpose of saving our money, but to have these things established for the future.

The inhabitants of the gaol have been constantly changing during the time you have attended there?—Yes.

How long would basons remain if they were furnished?—If a prison was ordered, as I would have it, they would remain one year after another, and for many years.

In what manner are the women washed?—They are hardly washed at all; sometimes we have provided soap and towels, and things of that kind; when I answered, I answered as to the regulation of the prison itself, not as to that which we had supplied.

The soap is not allowed in any regular quantity?—There is a regular quantity at times given out; but there is great irregularity in its being given.

Do not the Sheriffs allow two ounces per week to each prisoner?—I believe that is the allowance that was agreed upon, but they do not obtain it regularly.

What is the kind of bedding the prisoners are allowed?—They are allowed a sort of rope-mat to lie upon, and two rugs to cover them; when I first knew Newgate, they had nothing but the boards to lie upon and the rugs.

How long ago is that?—About four years ago.

Were there not at that time three rugs?—I am not certain; I think it would be a very great advantage if the bedding were improved; much has been done, but more might be done; we have women sometimes in very delicate circumstances, and is it proper they should lie on only a mat; I do believe that very serious evils arise from it.

Do you not think it would be fitting to give each person a separate bed with a bedstead, as you know takes place in other prisons?—Certainly, as certainly takes place in all other prisons I have visited, except those of London.

The number of prisoners in those you have visited in the country is small when compared with those in London?—Yes.

And where there is more space and more room?—Yes; I should not wish for better beds for them than the prisoners have in Giltspur-street Compter.

Do you mean the women that are in the infirmary, or the women that are shut up in the cells?—I do not think I have visited the cells in that Compter; I allude to the women of whom we have the care, the tried prisoners under our care; I think the management of that prison, in many respects, does great credit to the City.

The present space allowed to the women is too narrow to admit of bedsteads, is it not?—It is much too crowded, thirty women lie in a room; it is almost like a slave-ship, I have sometimes thought.

What is the average space allowed to each woman to lie upon, taking the average number in the prison?—I cannot be accurate, not having measured; from 18 inches to two feet, I should think.

By six feet?—Yes; I believe the moral discipline of a prison can never be complete, while they are allowed to sleep together in one room. If I may be allowed to state it, I should prefer a prison where women were allowed to work together in companies, under proper superintendence; to have their meals together, under proper superintendence, and their recreation also; but I would always have them separated in the night; I believe it would conduce to the health, both of body and mind. Their being in companies during the day, tends, under proper regulations, to the advancement of principle and industry; for it affords a stimulus. I should think solitary confinement proper only in very atrocious cases; I would divide my women for a few weeks, till I knew what they were; but I would afterwards regulate them as I have now mentioned.

When you say there is a rope mat and two rugs to cover the prisoners, do you mean to each prisoner?—Yes.

Did you ever see them in bed?—No.

Do you know whether there are any beds in the prison, which prisoners have of their own?—There are a few.

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Do you know whether they are their own, or whether they hire those beds of prisoners, or turnkeys, or others?—I cannot answer that question; we always considered them as their own.

Are any of the clothes smuggled out of the prison and sold?—There have been some instances, but in very few cases; we find it an excellent plan for them to lay up a part of their earnings, to assist in clothing themselves; thus they have an interest in their clothes, which they would not otherwise have; an independent feeling attends it; but every thing is in danger whilst there is free communication with the city.

Have they any means of airing their beds?—I do not know of any, except taking them out into the air.

Will it not suggest itself to the matron, to have them aired, when the prison is cleared by the prisoners being sent off to Botany Bay?—Yes; but we never are clear. There are eight sessions in the year, and every sessions brings in a number of women; if there are twenty sent off to Botany Bay, perhaps there are twenty more come in in their room.

Do the prisoners complain of the heat of their sleeping rooms at night?—I have not heard them complain; but I believe their rooms are in a very offensive state in the morning; we take care and have them well cleaned and aired; but regulations for this purpose were commenced before we had any thing to do with Newgate, so we must not take the credit of that to ourselves.

The regulation of no person being allowed to go into their sleeping room in the daytime, and so on?—Yes.

The observations you have hitherto made have been confined to the tried side?—Yes, entirely.

Have you also to do with the untried?—Yes.

What is the general conduct on the untried side?—It has only been surprising to us to observe, how well the untried prisoners behave, and how easily they submit to our rules, and how glad they are to be superintended. We received a petition from the untried side, that we would be so kind as to take them under our care also. Since we have had the care of the prison, there were once one hundred and thirteen untried female prisoners. At this time, owing to some little offence which the Sheriffs gave them, there was something of a riot amongst them. No wonder, when a hundred and thirteen women were all locked up together, and all very much affronted. But as soon as our matron went to them, they became quiet. In all probability it would not have occurred, if she had only gone to them at the beginning of the disturbance.

Was that the time when the windows were broken?—Yes; I mention that to show that we have not always preserved order in the untried side; a little while ago they were very much disturbed, in consequence of a mistake in the baking; the matron went down and told them, if they would only lay aside all their things, she would send for me directly; and that promise being made, they laid down all their things, and waited patiently till I came, which was two or three hours afterwards.

Some little time since, had not you two or three very refractory and wicked women among them?—Yes.

Was it not thought necessary they should be punished, and sent out of your apartments to some other part?—We were obliged to send them to the untried side; for at times there are so few in it, that it affords a facility. In that case there was an enmity between them and some other particular women on the tried side.

At that time, the untried side was not so full?—It was not; there were very few in it, I believe.

Do you know whether they were placed in a room by themselves?—They were not; that entirely arose from want of room. We have not a place for our refractory women, but they are obliged to be together, or with the untried.

They were not put into a solitary cell?—No; they were some of those who had been put into the solitary cell for a short time, but we found their enmity was so great to some of the women who were on the tried side, that we thought it necessary to separate them, and to send them to the untried side.

So that the women who had so misbehaved amongst the convicted were of necessity placed amongst those that were not tried?—Yes; it was not only that they had misbehaved, but they had such an enmity to some of those who were tried, that it was necessary to separate them.

Do you put any of the untried to work?—We do occasionally; we let them make patchwork counterpanes for us.

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Some of the untried are in the school?—Yes, they are, when we think them very respectable we let them go into the school; but it is a very lamentable thing, that before a woman has been tried, a respectable married woman, or one who has been in service, she is obliged to associate with the lowest prostitutes out of the streets. I think that is one of the most serious considerations connected with this subject; even if opportunity be not given to prevent their being corrupted afterwards, they ought at least to be preserved from such contagion while they are untried.

The place is generally so crowded, that it is impossible to give any kind of classification?—It is impossible to effect any sufficient classification.

Do you know the size of the yard on the untried side, that they have to take air in?—I do not know the exact size of it, but it is much too small.

In fact it is nothing more than a passage?—It is not; as a proof of the want of classification, I have understood, that women who came in weeping over their deviations, some small deviations perhaps, by the time of their trial or their dismissal, would sometimes become so barefaced and wicked as to laugh at the very same things, and to be fitted for almost any crime. I understand, that before we went into the prison it was considered a great reproach to be a modest woman.

Do you not think that the want of air for so great a crowd of prisoners is very dangerous to the health?—Very much so; if it was not for the Sessions coming so often, we should soon see the untried droop in their health.

From want of air?—Yes; from want of air and other things; some of them from great distress.

Your attention has been called to the infirmary?—Yes.

How is that conducted?—The infirmary is kept very clean; they have nice beds, at least what I think sufficiently so; they are well attended to; they have all necessary medical aid and great attention from the surgeon, as far as I can see, and all the nourishment they require. I have here a statement of what the women have regularly in the sick ward. They have a bason of broth every day, a piece of meat, a good allowance of bread, a pint of milk, and a pint of porter if necessary, and as much wine as the surgeon chuses to order.

The infirmary however is sometimes very much crowded?—It is sometimes.

So that two women are frequently obliged to be put into a bed?—I have no doubt that is the case, but I never saw two women in bed together; they are mostly one of them up in the day, when I have been there.

Have you reason to think, that previous to the institution of your committee, girls became more corrupt during their continuance in Newgate than they were at their first entrance?—I have great reason to think that they became far more corrupt.

Do you now observe that they seem to be in a degree reformed, during their continuance in prison?—I think there has been considerable improvement in many; but until we can class them more completely, and prevent the communication with the city, we cannot expect to see any very great results.

Do not you think, even amongst the poor creatures you have now in prison, that great good has been done in the way of reform?—I do believe that considerable good has been done.

Has gaming entirely ceased?—It has of late; they have once been found gaming since we had the care of the prison; but I called the women up, when I found that some of them had been playing at cards, and represented to them how much I objected to it, and how evil I thought its consequence was, especially to them; at the same time I stated, that if it were true that there were cards in the prison, I should consider it a proof of their regard, if they would have the candour and the kindness to bring me their packs. I did not expect they would do it, for they would feel that they had betrayed themselves by it; however, I was sitting with the matron and heard a gentle tap at the door, and in came a trembling woman to tell me she had brought her pack of cards, that she was not aware how wrong it was, and hoped I would do what I liked with them; and, in a few minutes, another came up, and in this way I had five packs of cards burnt. I assured them that so far from its being remembered against them, I should remember it in another way. I brought them a present of clothing for what they had done; and one of them, in a striking manner, said she hoped I would excuse her being so forward, but if she might say it, she felt exceedingly disappointed; she little thought of having clothing given to her, but she had hoped I would have given her a bible, that she might read the scriptures herself. This had been one of the worst girls, and she had behaved so very badly upon her trial, that it was almost shameful. She conducted herself

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afterwards in so amiable a manner, that her conduct was almost without a flaw. She is now in the Penitentiary, and I hope will become a valuable member of society.

What is the state of the prisoners who come from the other prisons to Newgate, as to dress, health, and morals?—Generally speaking, very deplorable; we had a poor woman from Clerkenwell the other day, who, it was feared, would die before she could be put to bed; she was so thin, that her bones, if she had been a lady, would have been long ago plastered; we were afraid she would hardly have lived after she got into Newgate, with all the care taken of her there; she said, she had been obliged to lie on the cold bare boards, with nothing but bread and water to eat and drink; and she was almost naked.

In general, do not the prisoners who come from Tothill Fields and Clerkenwell, appear much debilitated for want of food?—I do not know that I can answer the question accurately, for I do not often make the inquiry from what prison they come.

You have stated three things, which, to your mind, are essential to the reformation of a prison; first, religious instruction; secondly, classification; thirdly, employment: do you think that any reformation can be accomplished without employment?—I should believe it impossible; we may instruct as we will, but if we allow them their time, and they have nothing to do, they naturally must return to their evil practices.

Have you any difficulty in procuring work from the different slop-shops in the metropolis?—The gentlemen of the slop-shops are very kind, but we have not nearly enough work, I dare say we might do twice as much; the women like to be employed; we might do a surprising quantity of work in the prison.

Has it occurred to you, to employ them in finer needle-work than they are accustomed to do?—I do not think it would answer; we have certainly employed them in finer needle-work, but I do not think it answers, considering the description of persons who generally go into Newgate.

Are you aware, that in the great female prison in Paris, almost all the finest needle-work, such as gown pieces, and so on, is done?—I have understood so, from Alderman Wood, but I never visited the prisons on the Continent.

If they were there for a limited number of years, do you think you should be able to instruct them to do the finer work?—I have not the slightest doubt of it; in short, they might, in that case, be taught to do almost anything; any manufactures which women could do, might be done there, if we kept our prisoners.

How many removals of female prisoners have you had in the last year in Newgate; how many have gone to Botany Bay?—Eighteen women; and thirty-seven to the Penitentiary.

Can you state, out of what number of convicts there have been in the course of a year?—I do not think I can; but of course out of many hundreds.

In fact there has been but one regular removal within the last year?—But one. There is one very important thing which ought to be stated on the subject of women taking care of women. It has been said, that there were three things which were requisite in forming a prison that would really tend to the reformation of the women; but there is a fourth, viz. that women should be taken care of entirely by women, and have no male attendants, unless it be a medical man, or any minister of religion; for I am convinced that much harm arises from the communication, not only to the women themselves, but those that have the care of them.

In the present arrangement, is it not so with regard to the women?—It is very nearly so; but if I had a prison completely such as I should like, it would be a prison quite separate from the men's prison, and into which neither turnkeys nor any body else should enter but female attendants, and the Inspecting Committee of Ladies; except indeed such gentlemen as come to look after their welfare.

In what does the turnkey interfere now with that prison?—Very little; and yet there is a certain intercourse which it is impossible for us to prevent, and it must be where there is a prison for women and men, and there are various officers who are men in the prison; it is impossible that they should be entirely separate. In the present state of Newgate, such a plan as I have in my mind respecting the proper management of women prisoners, cannot be put into execution. We must have turnkeys, and a governor to refer to; but I should like to have a prison which had nothing to do with men, except those who attended them medically or spiritually.

Do you believe men to be as much excluded from all communication with the women now as is possible, in the present state of Newgate?—Yes, I think very nearly so. My idea, with regard to the employment of women, is, that it should be a regular thing undertaken by Government; considering (though I perhaps am not the person to speak of that) that there are so many to provide for; there is the army and

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and navy, and so many things required for them; why should not Government make use of the prisoners? But I consider it of the utmost importance, and quite indispensable for the good conduct of such institutions, that the prisoners should have part of the earnings of their work for their own use; a part they might be allowed to take for tea, sugar, &c.; but a part should be laid by, that there may be some provision for them when they leave the prison, without their returning to their immoral practices. This is the case, I believe, in all prisons well regulated, both on the continent of Europe and in America. In a prison under proper regulations, where they had very little communication with their friends, where they were sufficiently well fed and clothed, constantly employed and instructed, and taken care of by women, I have not the least doubt that wonders would be performed, and that many of those, now the most profligate and the worst of characters, would turn out valuable members of society.

Has there been any instance, during the time you have superintended the gaol, of a female who has returned again upon a new charge?—I believe there have been one or two instances; but I really think, that, in the present state of things, we are not at all a fair criterion. Our plan cannot be put into full execution for want of properly classing our prisoners. Until we have room, and there is less communication with the city, the thing is necessarily very imperfectly done. Those individuals who came back again on new charges, were passers of bad money. Such persons sometimes go out with a knowledge that they will come back again. They are quite in clover during the time they are in the prison, by their associates in crime; so that it is of very little consequence to them whether they are in prison or out of it.

Then the gang without keep the gang within?—Yes; I have heard of some of those women having a boiled rabbit and a pudding for their dinner. There is one thought I may, perhaps take the liberty of mentioning: The College of Physicians is to be parted with, which is exactly behind Newgate; I have sometimes thought that it would make a very good female prison; I have therefore sent to the President to inquire about it, and I beg to present the answer I have received from the President, with a plan of the building.

[*It was presented to the Committee, and the Answer read, as follows:*]

"Dr. Latham, President of the College of Physicians, states, the College would be perfectly willing to allow Government to possess the present College, situate at the back and adjoining to Newgate, upon the Government erecting a plain and suitable building, in some situation in London more convenient to the College.

"The College enters so much into the views of certain parties, as to the possession of the old College in Warwick-lane, being highly advantageous as an appendage for various purposes for the Unfortunate in Newgate, they entirely disclaim any wish to make any profit by Government."

"26th February 1818."

There is another subject which it may be right to mention. In the present state of Newgate, I have occasionally been put to a difficulty as to knowing who is our head between the Gaol Committee and the Sheriffs; sometimes the orders of one are frequently in contradiction to the other.

Have the goodness to state an instance?—I very much objected to the women going between the gratings, because I considered that the gratings were made to separate them from the city as much as possible. The Governor was induced to give an order that nobody should go through; the Sheriffs visited the prison; the women went to petition them, saying, how hard it was that they were separated from the city; they were not aware that I had anything to do with it, but thought the Governor merely had prevented it; the Sheriffs gave leave; then they went between the gratings again. Our friend, Alderman Wood, visited us; I stated to him how much I objected to it; they were again ordered out; since that the Sheriffs visited the prison; the women complained again, and now they are once more admitted between the gratings.

Do you know whether there was not on the building of that visiting place, an order of the Court of Aldermen, that they should not be admitted?—It was erected before our time, therefore I cannot speak to it. After having said what I have, respecting the care of the women, I will just add, that I believe if there was a prison fitted up for us which we might visit as inspectors, if employment was found for our women, little or no communication allowed with the city, and room given to class them with female

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female servants only, that if there were a thousand of the most unruly women, they would be in excellent order in one week; of that I have not the least doubt.

Have you received from the officers of the prison, more especially Mr. Brown, Mr. Box, and Mr. Cotton, all possible assistance?—Our institution began in the time of the late Governor, Newman, from whom we received every possible assistance. We have received every attention from the turnkeys, the ordinary, and the surgeon; we have had very little to do with Mr. Brown; but in many instances, he has been kindly willing to assist us. Horace Cotton, I may particularly state, has been very kind to us, and I think has been very attentive to the prisoners; very frequent in visiting them in all cases of emergency, especially when they have been under sentence of death and near execution.

When you have applied to Mr. Brown he has done what you have wished?—I believe he would assist us, if necessary.

Mr. *W. R. H. Brown*, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

What is the present state of Newgate?—On Monday last there were 460 prisoners.

Divide the tried and untried, those under sentence of death, and the fines?—There were respited during pleasure, 48 males and eight females. Judgment respited, that is, waiting the judgment of the Court, twelve males and two females. Under sentence of transportation for life, 14 males and 14 females. Under sentence of fourteen years transportation, nine males and ten females. Under sentence of seven years transportation, 60 males and 33 females. There were convicted this session, up to Monday last, abiding the judgment of the Court, 49 males and two females. Under sentence of fines, for felony and misdemeanors, 36 males and 21 females. For trial, 112 males and 30 females, and seven-eighths of all those prisoners were county prisoners.

Can you state at all in what proportion, those under twenty years of age were to the present?—I have made up that to the close of the last session, and as the session will most probably close to-day, I will make it up on Monday. I wish to correct a part of my evidence of yesterday; I was asked, whether I have taken any fees during the time I have been keeper of Newgate, I said, No; but it did not occur to me at the moment, that agreeably to the Act of 56 Geo. III, the keeper of Newgate is entitled to claim of the county of Middlesex, upon the removal of every transport from that gaol, a fee of of 14 *s.* 10 *d.* I have received fees of that sort to the amount, for the last half year, of 273 *l.* odd shillings, which money I have paid into the Chamber of London, on account of the Court of Aldermen; previous to the abolition of fees, the keeper used to retain that.

Do you know the expense of conveying convicts to Sheerness, to Woolwich, to Portsmouth, and to Gosport?—To Sheerness, about 40 *s.* a head; to Portsmouth, about 58 *s.* a head; as to Gosport I have never removed any there. To Woolwich, about eight or nine shillings a head. I have had two removals to Sheerness, by the steam packet, which has reduced the expense one-third; but that is a very dangerous passage in winter, the vessel was aground last time, and it had been likely to be attended with very serious consequences.

Of what do the particulars of expense consist?—There is a caravan provided by the Corporation of London, which is drawn by six horses; the person employed is Mr. Mumford, who lives at Kennington; I will prepare an account of the items.

When the transports were last removed from Newgate, were they removed under the care and protection of the military?—They were, and for this reason, a paragraph appeared in one of the morning papers, that the transports were about to be removed that evening from Newgate; it was communicated in the prison among the transports, and I expected a riot, for it has been very usual for the prisoners going away, to break all the windows, and do 100 *l.* worth of damage; I wrote to know who communicated it to the newspaper, as this paragraph had a tendency of bringing all the thieves in town to the place of their setting out, and I very much doubted whether an escape would not be attempted; I wrote to the editor of the paper to demand who sent him that information; I had an answer back, that it was sent from the Police Office, Union Hall; this very much surprised me, and I addressed a letter to the Magistrates there, to know the fact; I got no immediate answer, but the clerk of the office came up to me and said, it was he that sent it; I pointed out the great impropriety of such a paragraph being inserted, and he said he had it from a constable who came there to provide ballots for the soldiers quartered in the neighbourhood of

Lambeth,

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Lambeth, to convey the convicts part of their way down; he said he was extremely sorry that the paragraph had got inserted; that he saw the mischievous tendency of it, fearing there might be some riot in the gaol; and as a great number of persons assembled to see the convicts go off, I applied to the Lord Mayor, that he would permit the escort of cavalry who were stationed in Blackfriars Road, to come to the Old Bailey Yard, to escort them from thence; there was an immense concourse of people assembled, of the very worst description.

Is it the custom for the caravan to be escorted after it leaves Newgate?—Yes; from Blackfriars Bridge the Surrey side; they have never come into the City, except on this occasion.

How many transports do you generally remove at a time?—Twenty-five in the caravan; it holds twenty-five.

How many caravans at a time?—Only one.

Are the transports removed from the other parts of the kingdom, removed with a military escort?—I fancy not; but I have seen prisoners brought in from the various gaols of the kingdom, and I have seen them most terribly ironed, and I have very often remonstrated upon it, and have no doubt they might have been conveyed in a different way, and particularly the prisoners from York, the last time; the convicts from Newgate go away with no irons; I take care to provide them, if it is likely to be a bad night, with proper clothing, and furnish them with provisions on the road; in general they have been very noisy and troublesome, and would do mischief if it was not for the soldiers, as they consider themselves as lost characters, and care not what they do.

Had you ever an escape?—No; but the mode of conveyance from Newgate to Sheerness and Portsmouth is as preferable, in point of humanity, to that from the other parts of the kingdom, as can possibly be conceived; the only irons they have in the caravan is a light chain from their legs, and they cannot get out of the caravan, but their arms are at liberty.

Is the caravan closed or open?—It is open; it is more than breast high; they have a seat to sit down, and a table in the middle, where they have their victuals; I allow them, if it is likely to be a long journey, three quarters of a pound of beef, and they take a loaf of bread with them, and I give them two pints of beer, and tea for breakfast in the morning.

If there are persons of a better class than the ordinary criminals, do they go in this manner, or in a post chaise?—Sometimes, where a man has been decent and respectable, and behaved himself well, I have taken him in a chaise with me; and sometimes where there have been four or five that were decent, I have not linked them with the other parties, but put them at the top by themselves, where there has been decency and good order preserved by them.

Where they have behaved themselves well in the gaol?—Just so.

You stated, that much mischief has been done by riotous convicts on their leaving the gaol; is it your opinion, that they might be so handcuffed as to prevent it?—Certainly, whenever they have gone through a town they have tried to break windows, by throwing whatever came in their way.

The question alludes to such a fettering of them as should leave the arm at liberty, sufficient for the prisoner to feed himself, but not sufficiently to allow of his throwing a stone with any violence?—It might be done, certainly.

How many hours are you going down to Portsmouth?—We start about eight o'clock at night, and get there about ten in the morning.

When you were first appointed keeper of Newgate, did you not find it necessary to make some rules and regulations for the government of the prison?—When I was appointed, I asked Mr. Newman, whether he had got any rules or regulations; he said, "he had none to give me;" of course I found it necessary to make some; I found no particular allotment of duty to each turnkey, but they attended indiscriminately about the prison, and there appeared, in my judgment, a deficiency of system; and I issued a certain number of temporary orders, until they could be revised or altered, or abrogated by the Court of Aldermen, for I did understand that the Court of Aldermen had done, or did intend to make, some rules and orders, sanctioned by the Judges.

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Have you got a copy of those rules and orders?—I have.

[*The Witness produced them, and they were read as follows:*]

HIS MAJESTY'S GAOL OF NEWGATE.

"THE Keeper, being deeply impressed with the importance of the trust confided to him, and under the circumstances which present themselves, has deemed it to be his indispensible duty to issue the under-mentioned temporary orders, merely for present regulation and government of the gaol; and he expects that the turnkeys and others will be particularly attentive to a due observance of them, until they are either revised, altered, or others better calculated are substituted in their stead, by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, or Sheriffs.

ORDERS.

1st. That it is expedient that the duty of the three principal turnkeys should be apportioned into stations, and that such stations be as follow: First station, at the main gate, on the north side. Second station, at the main gate, on the east side. Third station, at the main gate, on the south side; and that attendance at each station be from eight in the morning until eight in the evening.

2d. That each principal turnkey be allowed one hour for dinner; and that the hours for that purpose be one, two and three o'clock; so that each alternatively relieve each other.

3d. That they shall sleep alternately in the lodge, and shall be relieved at eight in the morning by an under-turnkey, who shall go to dinner at two o'clock, and return at three; and during that time, a principal turnkey, who has had his dinner hour, shall be in the lodge until the under-turnkey returns, who shall remain on duty in the lodge until eight o'clock in the evening; then to be relieved by a principal turnkey, who shall remain on duty until ten o'clock, the hour that him who sleeps in the lodge shall come on duty.

4th. That the under-turnkey in the lodge shall take the night duty alternately with the principal turnkeys; and on the following morning he shall be allowed an hour for breakfast, and return at nine o'clock.

5th. That three other of the under-turnkeys be attached to each station, and shall remain on duty from eight in the morning until eight in the evening, each to be allowed one hour for dinner, from twelve to one o'clock.

6th. That upon no account whatever, shall any or either of them leave their respective stations, unless at their dinner hours, or by special leave of the keeper.

7th. That an assistant-turnkey shall be stationed at the hatch, who shall go to dinner at one o'clock and return at two, and remain on duty until eight in the evening; and the under-turnkey in the lodge, shall attend at the hatch, during the time he is gone to dinner.

8th. That another of the under-turnkeys shall be stationed at the lodge, at the entrance of the press-yard, who shall remain on duty from eight in the morning until eight in the evening, taking one hour for dinner, from one to two o'clock, and during that time, one of the turnkeys in the yard, shall be in attendance at the gate.

9th. That two other under-turnkeys shall be stationed in the press-yard and cells, from eight in the morning, and shall remain on duty, watching the capital convicts, until four in the afternoon; and they shall not permit or suffer either the convicts themselves, or any of their friends, to go up into the infirmary, under any pretence whatever. This practice has too much prevailed, and if persisted in, the turnkey who permits it, shall be immediately discharged.

10th. That after the turnkeys leave their station in the press-yard, they shall go to dinner, and return on duty in the passages at half past five o'clock, and there to remain till eight in the evening.

11th. That an assistant turnkey shall be stationed at the top of the prison, every day, to be always walking about, and to report any disturbance, irregularity or improper behaviour, that he may observe in the prisoners in the various yards; and that he keep the leads clean and free from dirt.

12th. That two other assistant turnkeys shall be stationed in the passages, from eight in the morning until eight in the evening, taking one hour for dinner, one at one o'clock, and the other at two; and they shall not leave their stations, except at those hours, unless by leave of the keeper.

13th. That three of the turnkeys sleep alternately in the prison, and on the following

following morning, they shall be allowed one hour for breakfast, and return at nine o'clock.

14th. That on the admission of any prisoner, he shall not be manacled or ironed until seen by the keeper, unless in case of an emergency; and in order to prevent as much as possible, any putrid or infectious disease from being brought into the prison, that no prisoner shall be sent to any of the wards, until previously examined by the surgeon; and that until this be done, that they be kept by themselves, the males in one place, and the females in another.

15th. That the ward lists shall be made up every evening, by eight o'clock, and the state and number of the prisoners in each ward, shall be registered daily by the clerk.

16th. That on no account whatever, during the Summer months, the prisoners shall be locked up in their respective wards until the gun has been fired from the top of the prison, at eight o'clock in the evening.

17th. That the prisoners shall be mustered in their respective wards, agreeably to the ward lists, at eight o'clock every evening; and that the other musters shall be done only at such times in the day as the keeper shall direct, and on no account must they be previously made known to the prisoners.

18th. That after the time of locking up, the principal turnkeys shall examine the state of the locks throughout the prison yards and day-rooms; and every morning after the prisoners are let out, they shall also examine the windows, the ceilings, and every part of the wards, also under the beds, in order to ascertain if any and what attempts are making, or have been made to effect escapes.

19th. That the principal turnkeys are directed to use their utmost vigilance in looking after the watchmen on duty at the top of the prison, as there is reason to apprehend, that they are not so attentive to their duty as they might or ought to be.

20th. That the outer gate, commonly called the Lodge, shall be locked every night at eleven o'clock, and on no occasion must the turnkeys be out after that hour, unless by special leave of the keeper; and whenever they go out, they leave word where they may be found, in case they should be wanted.

21st. That the principal turnkeys use their utmost vigilance in looking after the wardsmen and wardswomen; that they are attentive to their duty, in causing the wards, yards, and staircases, to be kept clean and wholesome.

22d. That in order to prevent an improper use being made of the rugs and mats in the different wards, no more than two rugs shall be allowed to each prisoner; and in those wards where there is a short supply of mats, that two mats shall be appropriated to the use of three prisoners; that the principal turnkeys in each station, be particularly careful to observe that the rugs and mats are well beat and shook every Monday and Thursday, and if necessary, that a hot iron be passed over the rugs to prevent the accumulation of vermin; and immediately after the rugs and mats are beat, that the yards be well washed.

23d. That the principal turnkeys are strictly enjoined to instruct the wardsmen and wardswomen, to endeavour to abolish, or at least to prevent as much as possible, the dreadful practice of profane cursing and swearing, which unhappily prevails throughout the prison.

24th. That if any of the prisoners shall use any blasphemous language, obscene conversation, or fight, or quarrel, or use flash words, that the wardsmen and wardswomen do immediately report their names to the principal turnkeys, to be by them reported to the keeper, who will enter their names in a book, to be laid before the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs; which book will be kept as a public record against every prisoner so offending, which will not only be the means of their being sent away the first opportunity, but will also powerfully operate in their being excluded from the royal clemency.

25th. That the principal turnkeys shall report to the keeper every morning, the general conduct of the prisoners throughout the preceding day, in a book to be kept for that purpose.

26th. That the principal turnkeys shall not remove any prisoner from the ward he or she is first assigned to, unless ordered by the apothecary, or by permission of the keeper.

27th. That the turnkeys shall not give any accommodation to one prisoner more than another, unless by an order from an Alderman or one of the Sheriffs, or by permission of the keeper.

28th. That the principal turnkeys be careful to observe, that on the admission of any

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any prisoner to any ward within their respective stations, that neither the wardsmen nor wardswomen, nor any other person, take or exact any money from them under any pretence whatever; this the keeper finds has been too much the practice, and if persisted in, the wardsmen or wardswomen will be displaced, and immediate means taken to send them on board the hulks preparatory to transportation.

29th. That in order that a due regard may be had to the classification of prisoners, that those under sentence of transportation and for misdemeanors be kept in separate wards and yards, and on no account whatever, unless in a case of extreme necessity, that this order be departed from; and that the prisoners for trial be also kept separate.

30th. That the turnkeys shall not deliver out the meat or the bread until inspected by the keeper, that he may judge of its quality and goodness, and that it is supplied according to contract, and that the delivery notes be filed.

31st. That great defects appear to exist in the searching of visitors; that in future the females be searched in the lodge room, and with as much privacy and propriety as possible; and that neither the turnkeys nor any other person be present during the time of their being searched, and that the door of the room be kept shut.

32d. That the principal turnkeys take care that no male visitors pass the main gates without being searched, and that it be done by the turnkeys in the passages leading to the gates.

33d. That for the better carrying into effect these orders, the visiting of the prisoners on week days be limited from nine to one o'clock, and from four to six; and that no visitor shall be admitted in the intermediate hours unless by an order from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen or Sheriffs, and that those orders be laid before the keeper.

34th. That any abatement in these orders will be immediately investigated by the keeper, who will report the result to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs for their direction thereon.

35th. That these orders be stuck up in the wards, and various parts of the gaol.

11th June 1817. *W. R. H. Brown,* Keeper."

I sent one to each of the Aldermen the night they were issued.

But you issued them of your own accord?—Yes; I had no power to make rules and orders.

They were approved by the Court, until permanent rules and regulations should be made?—Yes.

Were you requested by the Court to carry them into effect until permanent orders were given?—Yes; I had directions from the Lord Mayor, speaking the sense of the Court of Aldermen, to pursue them.

Have those rules and regulations which the Court of Aldermen were to make, subject to the approbation of the Judges, been yet given you?—Not yet; indeed it is difficult in such a gaol as Newgate to make any rule without some exception; for the influx of prisoners is so great, that every six weeks we have a change of prisoners, to the extent of 250 at every sessions.

When you were appointed keeper of the prison, there were no books in the prison beyond a mere entry of names, there was no description of the person, whence he came, his former character, or what could be considered a proper registry of the prisoners; was there?—I found none but the common Newgate Calendar, which is nothing more than the name of the party, his age, by whom he was committed, and what for. This book is bound up, and there is an index to each session; therefore, if I want to ascertain the case of a man, and do not know the session he was tried, I must go through sixteen indexes to find his name and case. I thought this, certainly, a thing worthy of improvement; and I did, with the approbation of the then Lord Mayor, introduce the Form of this Register, which is beginning with the name, the age, and description of the person, and his place of birth, and so on.

[*Subjoined at the end of this day's Evidence.*] [*The Witness produced it.*]

With all transports that go away I send a Certificate to the hulks.

[*Ibid.*] [*The Witness produced it.*]

When I went on board the hulks the first time, I requested the captain to show me the returns made from the different gaols in the kingdom; he was kind enough to show me them, and I found them in general extremely defective; and then I introduced the form now produced; which Mr. Capper has done me the honour to say, he approves of very much.

Is there no register in which it is customary for the visiting magistrates to enter an account

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account of what they have observed in the prison ?—There was a book kept for the visiting magistrates, which I did not know of till I had been there two months.

Do the visiting magistrates enter their observations when they visit the prison ?—I believe they do; the visiting magistrates and the Sheriffs, whenever they come there make their own observations; I have seen them enter them on paper.

Since the establishment of the Gaol Committee, the magistrates, generally speaking, who are not on that committee, have not so much attended the prison as they used to do?—Certainly not.

Do the Gaol Committee, when they visit the prison, make their observations in that book?—No, the town clerk attends them; and what they do he inserts in a book, as a book of rules and orders; whatever orders they make are given to me, and the book containing them I have.

There is no book kept in the prison open to your inspection, and to the inspection of others, kept by the Gaol Committee, in the nature of the book which was kept for the use of the visiting magistrates, in which they note their observations on the state of the prison on the day on which they examine it ?—No, the Gaol Committee meet, and confer one with another.

All the orders out of that book are sent to you, to be inserted in your book?—Every thing emanating from that committee, either as regulating my duty, or anything relating to the prison, is entered in this book by the town clerk, and given to me by him.

If they make any observation on the badness of the bread, the want of clothing of the prisoners, or the over-crowding, would that be given you ?—It would be, certainly; particularly the article of cooking, the other day, was particularly entered, and given to me.

Whatever is in the nature of an order to you, is of course sent to you; but are their observations, as to what they find deficient in the prison, sent to you ?—They are generally entered in the book before stated.

What is the number of prisoners that have been admitted into Newgate within the last twelve months ?—2,396.

Can you furnish the Committee with their ages, arranged according to a scale, beginning at nine years of age ?—I cannot; I have got the numbers and ages of those that were tried at the Old Bailey in the last year, and those convicted were 1,375, and the ages of them were, between ten and fourteen, 81; between fourteen and eighteen, 238; and from eighteen to twenty-one, 211.

Of that number, how many were sentenced to death ?—188.

What is the bread you have with you ?—This is part of the bread delivered out to the prisoners this morning [*producing it.*]

Is that of the same quality you have had ever since you have begun baking ?—Yes, but very much improved; they did not make it so good at first as they do now.

Form of REGISTER of Persons committed to Newgate;—

NAME.	Age.	Description of Person, &c.	When brought into Custody.	By whom committed.	Offence charged with.

Form of CERTIFICATE sent with Convicts to the Hulks;—

His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate.—This is to certify, that the Convicts under Sentence of Transportation,
any Putrid or Infectious Disease, and are fit to be removed on board the Hulks—And further,
of my knowledge and information, Correct and True, and are so certified by me, as Keeper of

NAME.	Age.	Place of Birth, and Description of Person, &c.	Trade or Profession.	When & Whe Convicted.

Referred to in the Evidence of Mr. Brown, Keeper thereof.

When tried, and before whom.	Verdict of Jury.	Sentence.	If in Custody before, for what Offence, and how disposed of.	If executed, and when.	If respited, or pardoned, and when.	When delivered, removed, or otherwise disposed of.	If died in Prison, and when.	REMARKS.

Referred to in the Evidence of Mr. Brown, Keeper of Newgate.

hereunder written, have been examined by an experienced Surgeon, and are found to be free from that the Remarks and Observations made against each of their respective Names, are to the best the said Gaol, pursuant to the Statute in that case made and provided.

For what Offence.	By whom Tried.	Period of Sentence.	General Observations as to former course of Life, Conduct while in Prison, Habits, Family, Connexions, Disposition, &c. &c.

Lunæ, 2° *die Martii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. *William Robert Henry Brown*, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

IN the Account of Clothing you have given in, from what fund did that arise?—I cannot exactly speak to that; I apprehend partly from the Court of Aldermen, and partly from the Sheriffs; I never pay the bills; I never see them; I only certify the delivery of the Clothing; but I believe that the greater part is paid for by the Court of Aldermen.

Do you recollect at what period the greater part of the clothing contained in the list you have given in, was delivered into your care?—I think the greater part has been since Michaelmas; it is all the clothing that has been given away in my time.

That is to say, from July 1817 to February 1818?—Yes; I have endeavoured to ascertain what clothes had been given away before, but my predecessor never kept any account of it. I always keep an account of it in a regular store book.

Do you recollect any information given to you of boys in Newgate being in a state of nakedness, and afterwards clothing them?—I have never, to my recollection, seen boys in a state of nakedness; I have seen them without shoes and stockings; and the only clothing I have had to dispose of, generally speaking, has been shoes, stockings and shirts.

The Committee ask you, whether you have ever received a hint or information of any person about the gaol, particularly boys, being naked, and directing clothes to be given them?—The Sheriffs have been round with me at different times; and where they have seen that boys wanted shoes and stockings, they have asked me whether I had any, and if not, they have ordered me to provide some.

Did you ever receive any information from the ordinary that boys were naked, and ought to be clothed?—Not official information, merely conversation; and as I go round the prison every day, and visit almost every ward and yard, I must see it, without information from him. He might have told me that some of the boys were badly off, but it was never officially communicated to me.

Did you ever see any boy in a state of absolute nakedness?—No, not naked.

Had you ever any requisition made to you to get clothing, and refused?—Never; the only instance I ever recollect of a boy being destitute of clothing, was a little one of the name of Sidebotham; he had, I believe, a ragged coat on, and a waistcoat, and a ragged pair of breeches; however, I had no jackets by me at that time in the house, but I provided him with a shirt, and shoes and stockings, and, I think, a pair of drawers; I am not certain of that, but there is an account taken of it in a book.

Do you recollect your attention being called to an extraordinary case of a boy being almost in a state of nakedness, who had a ragged coat, and that pinned before for mere decency?—No, nor do I believe the fact ever was so; if it was so, I must have seen it. I have seen boys very destitute of clothing, but never in so bad a state as that altogether.

When they come into your gaol, they generally come in bare?—They generally do; and when I have given clothes among the prisoners, and have gone round a day or two afterwards, I have frequently found that the clothes which have been given them have been missing, and that will ever be the case while the present system of admitting strangers is continued.

Are strangers admitted; is there not an order that persons shall not be admitted into the Gaol?—Not among the boys, but they are called down to their friends to the railing; no person is admitted into the boys ward, but there are so many persons who come in the character of mothers, fathers, husbands, wives, sisters and cousins, to visit them, that it is difficult to prevent things being taken away; but the boys are

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are called down to the rails, and they are so wide, that there is every opportunity of conveying things away.

Are the Committee to understand, that when you have given the boys clothing to relieve their necessities, that upon visiting them in a day or two, you have found that they have disposed of them?—I mean generally, boys and men, in a variety of instances.

Do you mean to say, that in the greater number of cases in which you have given the clothing you have described, that it has been disposed of by the prisoners?—I cannot exactly answer that question; all I know is, that with respect to a case in the cells, about a week or a fortnight ago, I distributed some shoes and stockings, and drawers among the persons there, and the next day I went round to see that those parties had all their clothing I had so given them, and I found a boy that had not his shoes, and when I interrogated him, he said he had sent them out to be mended.

Were those shoes new when you gave them?—Yes; and this is not a solitary instance of clothes having been sent out of the prison, but it occurs frequently.

In the number of boys you have had in the school, in the last six months, how much clothes have you distributed among them?—I cannot exactly tell the amount.

Of that quantity, be it what it may, how much has been disposed of by the parties?—I never kept an account of it.

Do you mean to say, that in one case in twenty, the parties have sold the clothes you have given out?—I should think less than one case in twenty; but the fact is, that the fluctuation of prisoners is so great, being at the rate of near three hundred every six weeks, that it is almost impossible to keep an account at all of the clothing so disposed of by the prisoners.

The Committee are not speaking of the men, but the boys, and they wish to hear from you, if you can tell them, what quantity of the shoes and stockings and other clothes that you have distributed amongst them, has been disposed of when you have called upon them?—I never kept an account of that; I have got an account of the clothes they have had.

Do they take them away with them, out of the prison, or do they give them back?—When they go to the Penitentiary, they take the clothes with them, as also to the hulks.

If they are discharged as acquitted, or by proclamation, do they take those clothes with them?—Yes.

Even those clothes that have been given them in the prison?—Yes.

In every instance?—Yes.

You have mentioned, that you are quite sure that the boy Sidebotham never was in the situation which you have been asked?—Not completely naked.

Will you take upon yourself to say, that he was not, on a certain day in January last, without shoes, stockings, and breeches, having borrowed a shirt of another boy, and with his coat pinned before?—That I cannot speak to, without I had my book before me; I never saw a boy in a complete state of nakedness; I saw a boy with a long great coat, and he had a pair of very ragged drawers on, and he was without shoes and stockings, I ordered him shoes and stockings, and I believe I gave him a pair of drawers and a shirt, that is all the clothing I had it in my power to give him.

How long had he been in Newgate when you saw him in that state?—I cannot tell without referring to the register.

Can you take it upon yourself to say, that he had not been in that state nearly three weeks?—I cannot tell without I had the book.

Did the schoolmaster ever speak to you as to that boy's situation?—Never, to my knowledge.

Do you know whether the schoolmaster distributed the money he received, to purchase clothes for that boy?—No, nor I do not know that he had any money to distribute, because that is a practice I wholly discourage in the prison, in allowing persons who are wardsmen, to do any thing of the kind; it has a bad tendency.

Had you ever seen him before in that state?—I do not exactly know the time I saw the boy, but when the boys were all standing round, my attention was directed to him, who seemed to be in a very destitute state.

And then you relieved him?—Yes.

Did Mr. Cotton ever call your attention to this boy?—Not particularly; I see Mr. Cotton every day, and he tells me a variety of things, but nothing officially; had he told me particularly about this or that boy, I should have attended to it, if it was in my power.

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Is the fund of clothing you have, sufficient to relieve the want of it, which occurs in the prison?—With respect to that question, I am at a loss how to answer it, because it is not usual to give the transports any clothing at all, unless in cases of absolute necessity, being always in expectation of getting an order for their removal, and then they get clothes when they go to the hulks; and with respect to the other part of the prison, *the untried side*, where the fluctuation is so great, it requires some degree of discrimination how to act, with regard to giving out clothing at all.

Have you any doubt, that for the reasons such as you have assigned, there exists unrelieved, a considerable quantity of distress for want of clothes?—It does not now appear that there is any want of the sort.

In the course of the twelvemonth?—I have certainly seen many persons in great distress for want of clothes, and the Sheriffs who visit the prison very frequently, both the late and the present ones, have always seen that themselves, and have provided shoes and stockings, and sometimes shirts.

Is it a private fund of their own or from any public fund?—I do not know.

Are those that are in the greatest want of clothing, those who have last come?—Generally so, nine out of ten; there were a great many prisoners acquitted at the last sessions, and seven out of ten had clothes of some sort or other given them, and they took them with them when they were discharged; some shoes, others stockings and shirts.

Are you aware that the Grand Jury, on the 19th of January 1818, reported in these terms, "The deplorable situation of the male prisoners, in respect to clothing, particularly the juvenile part, made a melancholy impression on our minds; many were without shoes or stockings, others without shirts, and one almost in a state of nakedness; circumstances we most earnestly recommend to the consideration of those who arrange and manage the general business of the prison." Have you any doubt that that statement, on the part of the Grand Jury, is perfectly well founded?—I think it is considerably overcharged; I was with the Grand Jury a part of the time; some of the boys certainly had very bad shoes, some of their toes were out of them, and their stockings were equally bad.

Have there been many boys in the infirmary this last winter?—Mr. Box will be better able to explain that.

What is your opinion of the propriety of having a prison dress, that immediately on a prisoner's arrival having a prison suit put on him?—I doubt whether the law would warrant a prison dress to be put on untried prisoners.

Have the male prisoners any means of washing, or any soap allowed?—The Sheriffs allow two ounces of soap a week to the men, the same as the women.

Is that regularly given out?—Yes, every Friday.

How long has that order been given?—Ever since I have been there.

What do you conceive the Grand Jury mean, when they state, in addition to the passage read before, "And we are of opinion, that the general cleanliness and health of the prisoners of both sexes would be much improved, if an allowance of soap was given for that purpose?—I cannot tell what they mean.

That statement was incorrect on their part?—Most certainly.

The Committee wish to know the quality of meat you have received into the gaol since you have been there?—I have always looked at the meat, and according to my judgment it has been uncommonly good; we have a man there who is a prisoner, who has been a butcher all his life; he is employed in cutting out the meat, and he has assured me it was very good indeed; last summer there were two or three complaints, on account of the weather having affected it; but when that has happened it has always been changed, I have never had any complaint of the prisoners, of the badness of the quality at all.

The meat that is distributed is the coarse pieces?—Clods and stickings; I have always taken care that the prisoners should have an equal quantity of both.

Meat without bone?—Yes, it is weighed off to them; with respect to the clothing, I beg to state a circumstance of some importance; the prison has been put to considerable inconvenience at various times, from persons being committed at a very late hour at night, and very badly off for clothing; we have been at a loss to know what to do with them at that time of night, for they come in sometimes at eleven or twelve o'clock from the different police offices. It has been recommended to me by the Goal Committee, that no prisoner shall be admitted after nine o'clock; but I have found it impossible to carry it into effect.

Have you not understood, and been led to believe, that the officers who bring in

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men at a late hour at night, have frequently had them in alehouses much longer than they ought to have had, and have come to you in a state of intoxication?—Yes, no doubt of it.

Have you a separate place in Newgate, in which you could dispose of a person for the night, in order that he might be safely kept, till he was examined by the surgeon in the morning?—I have, about nine months out of the year; but we are particularly pressed during the vacation time.

In vacation time that is occupied?—Yes.

Do you think it would be advantageous, that there should be an assistant to the surgeon, always residing within the walls of the prison?—I think not, if the prison doors were locked at nine o'clock at night; the surgeon living so near, that either he or his assistant would attend at a moment's notice; and that has been the case repeatedly.

Does the surgeon examine the prisoners as they are brought in?—When the prisoners come in, if I am in the way, I immediately see them, and of course judge, as far as their appearance goes, of the state of their health; if they appear well, they are consigned to their proper ward; if in a diseased state, I order them to the infirmary, for the purpose of being examined by the surgeon, and he daily reports to me of any thing that has occurred during the preceding day and night, with respect to diseases.

Do you fumigate their clothes, or cleanse their persons, when they come in?—I believe not; some come in in such a shocking state, we hardly know what to do with them; their clothes ought to be burnt.

Have you ever sent for the surgeon, and found him absent at the time he has been sent for?—Either he, or some person for him, always comes at the moment he is sent for, and sometimes he has been called up at two or three o'clock in the morning to attend prsoners taken ill.

And when sent for, always attended?—Yes.

At what hours are the doors of Newgate open?—About seven o'clock this time of year, and they are opened an hour earlier in summer time; it gives air and ventilation to the prison.

At what hour in general do the prisoners get up?—The doors are generally unlocked at seven, except on the morning the coals are delivered; that is only once a week.

Do they then immediately get up?—Some do, some do not; the untried prisoners will do just as they like about that, unless you force them out of the room; but I find the women are the most irregular in that respect.

At what time are the bed-rooms empty, and cleaned out?—A couple of hours after, about eleven or twelve o'clock.

So that the bed-rooms are cleaned, and in a proper state by that time?—Generally so.

At what hour are they shut up, winter and summer?—The women are shut up at eight o'clock, and the men at seven; but that will be extended till eight at Lady-day.

At what hour are all the candles out in the prison?—I should suppose about eleven o'clock; I have gone round at that time, and I have not seen any; the prisoners buy their own candles, they therefore burn them till that time if they please; I have frequently walked on the top of the prison at that time. and I have never seen any irregularity of that sort.

There is no fixed hour for the candles to be put out?—None; with respect to the cells during the last summer, there were a great many persons confined there; they were locked up at two o'clock in the afternoon, and were confined in their cells till the next morning at nine.

Three in each cell?—Not at that time, there were but two; I have never thought it right to lock up three in a cell, and have always avoided it, except in cases where they have wished to be three in a mess, as they call it; there were heavy complaints made against the long time they were locked up; I represented this to the late Lord Mayor and to the Sheriffs, and suggested the propriety of keeping them out a longer period, and they said, "I was at liberty to do so; they approved of it;" and I have always kept them out in the summer time till about eight o'clock, and six in the winter, for which the men have at all times manifested particular gratitude.

Candles you say are not allowed; what quantity of coals are allowed?—We take the average per week in winter, at a sack per ward; and where the wards are small

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we give them two bushels, and the large four; but the proportion is a sack a week in the winter, and half a sack in the summer season.

Is that sufficient, or are they obliged to purchase coals in addition?—In my opinion it is amply sufficient; but they are so improvident, they do not make the best use of the coals, and consequently do not find them sufficient; but in the winter season, when it is peculiarly severe, we generally make a little difference.

Do they purchase many coals themselves?—I think they do.

Is there a boiler to supply them with hot water?—Yes.

So that they may have hot water all the day long?—Yes; and the women have a copper for washing; and many of them are employed in washing the shirts and other linen of the male prisoners, who send their clothes to them, and it has never been prevented.

When the kitchen begins to work, and their meat and soup is dressed for them, will they have ample fuel at all seasons for their comfort?—Yes, quite so; for they will then only want enough to keep the wards sufficiently warm.

When the Prison Committee visit Newgate, do they go round every part of it?—Generally so.

How often do they visit?—Since I have been keeper of Newgate, I think there has scarce a week passed but I have had a summons to attend the Gaol Committee, frequently twice a weeek; they do not always meet at Newgate, but they have met there a number of times since I have been there; sometimes they meet at Giltspur-street, and sometimes at Whitecross-street.

Under whose orders do you consider yourself to be, and who in point of fact are your masters?—That is a question of great delicacy; unfortunately for me I am obliged to obey a great many orders; but it is my bounden duty to obey the Court of Aldermen, because they appointed me, and pay me; the Sheriffs have a power over the gaol, consequently I obey them, and the Under Sheriffs are in the habit of sending orders for the admission of visitors, which I have also obeyed; but I do not think I am bound to do it, except in cases of murder.

Has it sometimes happened that you have had an order from either of the Sheriffs or the Under Sheriff, to do that which is contrary to those rules and regulations which you have laid down yourself, under the approbation of the Court of Aldermen?—I have had frequent orders sent me by the Sheriffs, that have been contrary to the orders laid down for the regulation of the gaol, but then they have previously told me that I was to use my own discretion as to the propriety of submitting to those orders; and in many instances, I have known that persons calling themselves cousins and sisters, who have been very improper characters to go into the prison, have obtained orders of admission, which I have been obliged to reject.

When the Committee visited Newgate the other day, you showed them an order which you had received from one of the Under Sheriffs, desiring that a gentleman and a lady might be admitted to visit one of those persons who are in there for a term of imprisonment; was not that contrary to the instructions you had received from the Court of Aldermen?—It was, certainly; it was an order to admit a gentleman and a lady, to dine with three gentlemen there, for fighting a duel.

Did you obey that order?—I did; indeed I have always understood the Under Sheriffs claimed a right to issue orders; it would be a good thing for the prison if all these points were settled.

Did the order state a gentleman and his wife?—A captain and a Mrs. A.: A circumstance occurred last night with these parties, which probably will be talked about; they are very angry about it. One day last week, I permitted, at the request of one of them, the wife of the wardsman, to stay two hours later, in order to prepare them some cooking; I said I had no objection to it, but it was contrary to the rules, but as they had something particular to do, I would consent to it, provided she went out at the proper time; however it was represented to me at five o'clock that she was there, and that they would not let her come out; I immediately sent the turnkey to insist upon her coming out; they said, she should not come out; I then said, I would soon see who was the keeper of the gaol, and that if they did not immediately let her come out, they must abide by the consequences; at last they allowed her to come.

You still are accustomed to use irons upon those persons who are committed for felony?—We always have done it; and I am afraid they can never be dispensed with, while strangers are suffered to go into the interior of the prison, that is the yards and the wards.

Do you think then, that if strangers were not admitted to enter the wards and the yards, that the goal is sufficiently secure to enable you to do without the use of irons?

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irons?—I have no doubt it could be done, as all the danger lies in persons passing out in women's apparel, and the things which the visitors bring in; I think the prisoners committed for trial, would have no objection to be restrained from seeing their wives and friends only between the rails, rather than wear irons; but this is quite a matter of opinion, but I should like to try the experiment.

Do you not think it would be advisable to continue the wearing of irons as a distinguishing mark of conviction, and not on the simple charge of felony?—There is a sort of irons which people might wear as a disgrace, which is what they call a body iron, which I have seen in two or three gaols, particularly at Maidstone; I approve of them very much; and if the man who lately put an end to his existence, had had one of them, he never could have done it; they can just feed themselves, and that is all; but there is no inconvenience arising from it; I think there are some of the prisoners, particularly transports, who are so very bad in morals, and every thing else, that some of them must be ironed.

Is your opinion then with respect to the necessity of the use of irons founded upon the additional security they give you, or as their being used for the purposes of marking conviction?—For the additional security; as after conviction I think the characters of the prisoners become changed; they do not appear to be the same men; whether they have an idea that they are lost to society or what, I do not know, but they seem indifferent as to their fate, and do not care what they do.

After conviction they become desperate?—Yes; which renders it necessary in that case to use irons.

Do you now consider yourself to have a discretion with respect to the use of irons?—Certainly.

Then what is your reason for not abstaining from the use of them in some instances?—For the sake of security.

Is there no instance in which you think you might abstain from the use of them?—Several, and I have done it; I do not know that the gaoler is obliged to use irons at all, all he is to do is to keep them in safe custody; there was an instance a short time ago, when a man was brought in charged with a rape; he came in when I was not in the way, and had the irons put on him, but when I saw him the next morning I ordered his irons to be taken off; he has been tried and acquitted; we have several persons now who are transports, not ironed at the request of certain individuals; if a Magistrate or a Sheriff were to say, do not iron this man, I should obey the order; there are a great many in the prison where irons might be dispensed with.

The only reason then that makes you not adopt the dispensing with irons as a general rule, is the intermixture of strangers in the yards?—Yes, certainly, was that dispensed with, the necessity for irons would cease.

Do you not think there are many persons after conviction whose characters are not so changed, who might be kept without irons?—I think there are many; and when I said that the men's characters were changed after conviction, I did not mean to apply that remark to the whole, because there are many persons who are transports who might be made good members of society.

Upon what motive did you iron those children that were in the cells under sentence of death?—From no motive, but because it was represented to me that it had been the custom always to do so; the same thing will apply in the other parts of the prison.

Do you use irons of various weights?—The irons that I use in Newgate are generally alike, there is very little difference; they are the lightest perhaps of any prison in England; they are not half nor a quarter so heavy as many I have seen in other prisons.

What is the heaviest and the lightest?—They are so nearly all alike I can make no distinction; I never weighed them.

Did those little children wear the same weight of iron as the men?—Not exactly; because I ordered the lightest iron that could be found to be put on them.

They are the lightest you have in the gaol?—Yes.

You have said, that if certain persons did not visit the prison, you would risk the dispensing with irons?—Yes; what I mean by that is, that if the same plan was adopted as was recommended by the Aldermen who visited the various gaols in the country, which was to have a double grating, with six feet space between the grating, so that every person coming to see them, should see them through those rails.

When you say that, do you mean that the power of putting them on refractory persons should be taken away?—If an untried prisoner misbehaves himself, I think I should have the power of putting irons on him; but I think the body iron would be sufficient; I consider that as an improvement upon the ironing system.

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You have stated before, that some rules and regulations have been adopted as to the admission of strangers to the condemned cells, so that none but the nearest relations, such as wives producing their certificates, and fathers and mothers, were admitted to see the prisoners under sentence; is not that security sufficient to enable you to do without irons?—That is a question I cannot well answer, for this reason, because all persons under sentence of death are indiscriminately together, and there may be some notoriously bad characters amongst them; I have no doubt some might be as safe without irons as with, but being mixed with the rest, I do not know how I could make a difference.

The children might be safe without irons?—Yes; we have at this time 223 transports, and we frequently have one-fourth of that number of wives and other relations visit them daily.

Have you any recollection of money being paid to the late or present schoolmaster for accommodation to the boys?—I never heard of any to the present schoolmaster; the late schoolmaster, I was informed, did receive some money from two prisoners who were sent to the hulks; and when I was at the hulks at Sheerness, soon after, I inquired about it, and the boys bore testimony to the truth of it, that their friends had paid it; one of them was of the name of Follett.

Did they tell you what sum?—I do not recollect now, but something per week, I think about eight or ten shillings a week each.

Was the late schoolmaster a convict, as well as the present?—Yes, I believe he was.

For what purpose was that money allowed?—For accommodation, as he called it; it was before my time.

Mr. *William Hutcheson Box*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. W. H. Box.

YOU are surgeon of Newgate?—Yes.

When were you appointed?—Seventeen years ago next month.

Who appointed you?—The Court of Aldermen; I am also surgeon of the Borough and Giltspur-street Compters.

What is your salary?—Three hundred pounds a year for the three, including every thing.

Do you provide medicines?—Yes.

How long has this augmentation of salary taken place?—It has not been an augmentation, but a diminution, for two years.

What was the salary before?—A hundred and fifty pounds a year for Newgate alone, and all the medicine and articles of fumigation paid for by the City.

What for the other two prisons?—My predecessor in the Giltspur-street Prison had a salary of a hundred and forty pounds a year, and a chest of medicines found by the City.

What do you mean by supplying medicines?—I supply the medicines now at my own cost.

What had your predecessor at the Borough?—I do not know that any salary was fixed; he was there for a twelvemonth only.

Do you consider the 150 *l.* a year, and the City finding medicine, as a better provision than the 300 *l.* and your finding medicines?—A greal deal, no comparison.

What number of patients did you attend in the three prisons last year?—It is almost impossible to say. I have prepared a list of the number of patients in the three prisons under my care, which are as follows:

" An Abstract of the number of Cases attended in the different Prisons, according to the dates specified in the Statement:—

Total number of cases of fever, admitted into the male infirmary of Newgate, from the 16th of May 1817, to the 1st of January 1818 - - - - - - - - -	284
Number of relapsed during that period - - - -	126
Cases of fracture, severe ulcers, venereal disease, jaundice, cutaneous eruptions, &c. requiring confinement, and admitted into the convalescent wards, as above - - - -	41
Cases of fever, admitted into the female infirmary in the same period - - - - - - - - - - -	32
Ditto of various diseases, requiring confinement to the infirmaries - - - - - - - - - -	28
Total admitted into the Infirmaries - - - - -	511

" It

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"It also appears, from the daily statement, that the average number of out-patients, whose complaints did not require confinement, or who (from want of accommodation) could not be admitted into the infirmaries, was 18 per diem; these are taken from the last hospital book, the former having been mislaid.

In the Giltspur-street Prison, the number of cases regularly attended (the much greater part being vagrants committed in the most deplorable state of health) is for the year ending 1st January 1818 - - - - - - - - 589

The out-patients and various calls not taken into consideration.

The visits to the Borough Compter have been, during the last year, upwards of 80, and the number of cases attended above 150 - - - - - - - - - 150

Total number of Cases in the two Prisons - - - 739

"It will be apparent from this Statement, taken from the books produced to this Honourable Committee, that the *actual cases* attended amount to 1,250, exclusive of an average number of out-patients, amounting to considerably more than 20 per diem. (Signed) *W. H. Box.*"

In this list you have delivered in, there are five hundred and eleven patients for Newgate only?—Yes, admitted into the infirmary; but there are out patients, about eighteen per day.

Formerly the medicines were paid for by the City?—Yes; the Court of Aldermen paid for them quarterly; the alteration took place last Christmas two years.

Have you any account of the quantity of medicines you have furnished?—I have no account with me, but I have my books at home, which show, that the prime cost of the medicines has been very nearly 50 *l.* a quarter, without paying for the making up or paying my assistant.

Does your occupation at Newgate allow you time for other practice?—It has not lately; it has injured my practice a great deal the last two years.

So that the 50 *l.* a quarter for medicines, and 40 *l.* for your assistant, gives you 60 *l.* a year for your trouble?—Not so much; because there are the expenses of making up the medicines and sending them to the prison, and stationary.

Was there any reason given for the alteration made in your salary?—I never heard any other reason given, than that the debtors were removed; but the increased number of commitments have made the situation quite as heavy as when the debtors were there.

Out of that five hundred and odd prisoners during the eight months, what has been the mortality?—About seven in the last half year.

Can you recollect how many you lost in the year preceding?—I think twelve; certainly not more than fourteen; and the year before, I only lost three in the three prisons, though there were nine thousand commitments.

And yet in the last eight months in Newgate, you have had no less than 284 cases of fever?—Yes.

Was the fever principally the typhus?—All the relapses almost went into the typhoid shape; but we have had no primary case of typhus fever in the prison but what was brought in to us. This is a list of the names sent in, suffering under fever.

A List of the Prisoners who have been brought into His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate with different diseases, from other prisons:—

May	Isaac Crook	Fever.
	John Farrindon	D°.
	—— Kentish	D°.
July 2	John Cooper	D°.
21	William Jones	D° and Itch.
27	John Roberts	Fever.
	John Williams	D°.
August 25	William Pack	D°.
September 1	John Dickins	D°.
25	Richard Broderick	Venereal and Fever.
October 1	William Bowman	(Fever) moving day.
November 30	William Barnaby	D°, slight.
December 21	Ralph Kelly	Fracture.
25	William Anderson	Fever, slight.
	William Wight	D°.
	John Springate	D°.

I would

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I would beg to observe, that the name which stands first on this list, did more mischief in Newgate as to fever, than had been done for fourteen years before.

Where did he come from?—From Clerkenwell New Prison.

With the fever upon him?—Yes.

Do you recollect for what offence he was committed?—No, I do not recollect; but he was tried three sessions following at our place for three separate offences, and he was acquitted or sentenced to a slight imprisonment; I do not recollect what his offence was.

During the last two years, has there been an unusual number of patients in the infirmary?—Yes; last year in particular a great increase.

At what would you state the average cost of medicines for the six or seven years preceding?—The bills paid by the magistrates on the average of the several years preceeding, amounted to about two hundred and forty pounds each year, rather more; it was considered then that I was to charge a reasonable profit on the medicines.

Have you ever made any representation, that the present rate of your remuneration was less beneficial than it had been before?—Yes, I have; and it was referred to a committee, which committee has not yet reported to the Court of Aldermen.

Can you state to the Committee, what in your opinion was the cause that the relapses from fever in the last year, principally assumed the typhus shape?—There are a great many causes all tending to that point.

Be so good as to name them?—The first cause I should refer to would be the pressure of the times; people who come into the prison come in in a worse state of health; and the greater number of commitments arising from that also, and from having so many more fevers, and from the impossibility of our getting rid of our convalescent patients, relapses will inevitably follow, because it is absolutely necessary we should have a change of air, to bring people into that sound state of health that they ought to be after recovering from fever.

When the Committee visited Newgate the other day, they found two or three convalescents in one of the most confined yards in the prison, who had all the appearance of being in extreme bad health; do you think that place in which they were was a proper place for them?—I do not know which yard they were in.

The small yard where the boys all were?—I reckon that one of the best yards, because there is no down stairs wall; but they were transports, and we were obliged to put them there.

Then, as a surgeon, you did not consider that as a proper place for them; was it the necessity of the case which obliged you to put them there?—They were in a convalescent state, in my opinion, and fit to be put among the other prisoners.

You have stated, that the whole number of your patients had increased in the last two years; the Committee wish to know, whether more prisoners have fallen ill within the walls of the prison, within the last two years than in former ones?—Not more than in proportion to the commitments.

Have you got that proportion with you?—I can state it to the Committee; the proportion for several years before, were forty-four a day, including all sorts of illness, taking venereal disease, itch, and every thing in the two infirmaries, and out-patients; and I fancy it is about fifty-six now.

The Committee have heard that somewhat more than 2,400 prisoners have been committed to Newgate last year, and by your return 511 of them have been in the hospital in the last eight months; is not that an unusual sickness?—The Committee will have the goodness to observe, that a hundred and eight of those are relapses, it certainly appears that there has been a great deal more fever.

But is not that a much greater proportion of sickness out of the whole number, than in any preceding year?—I should think that would refer to the answer to the former question, that there has been an excess of about twelve a-day this year, to what there was two years ago.

Can you state how much per cent. of increase of illness there has been in the last twelvemonth?—Somewhere about twenty-four per cent. Those people, from the dreadful state of illness they come in, are not able to withstand the rigours of confinement. It is also to be submitted to the Committee, that the increase of illness out of doors has borne the same proportion; the mortality of Newgate has not borne a proportion to the increase of sickness, nor any thing like it; there has not been so many die in the last seventeen years, as died the three preceding years to my being appointed surgeon to Newgate.

Are relapses of fever more dangerous than the first attack?—Yes, no doubt.

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Are they highly dangerous?—They have not proved fatal, but they have been excessively severe.

Do they permanently injure the constitution in many cases?—Where conjestions take place, and abscesses form, they do.

Have many such cases occurred?—Not a great many; to be permanently injurious, several have.

Can you form any estimate what the proportion of general relapses in fever has been, to what you have observed in Newgate?—The proportion must be very great in Newgate, because they have not a change of air.

Do relapses from common fever often turn to typhus?—Almost always in Newgate. The fever has changed its nature in Newgate three different times since the first admission of fever to Newgate, since we first discovered there was fever.

Is the species of fever, called gaol fever, any longer known in Newgate?—I do not consider this fever so infectious as the gaol fever; the fever we have had has been generally what we denominate typhus mitior.

The Committee observe, in the paper given in, that out of the five hundred and eleven cases in the infirmary of Newgate, four hundred and thirty-two have been fevers or relapse from fever; is that an unusual number?—No doubt it is.

What is the ordinary average of fever cases in the hospital?—Two years ago, I had scarcely such a thing as fever; I had not lost a cure of fever for fourteen years before; and I do not think there have been three cases of fever lost in Newgate now.

Have you a fever ward?—Yes.

Have you not been obliged, from the pressure of circumstances, to admit patients suffering under this disorder into other wards?—I have been obliged to have three wards lately; but one ward has been completely set aside for cases where there was the least idea of infection; and on no one occasion has that rule ever been broken into.

What state of health do you generally find the other prisoners, who are removed to Newgate from the other prisons?—A great many of them in a very indifferent state of health.

What is the character of their ill-health generally?—In general in a weak state of health, appearing a good deal emaciated; I do not mean from want of nourishment in the other prisons, but from general poverty. I should state, in answer to the former question, that one of the great causes of the increase of fever in Newgate, has been the Middlesex magistrates committing immediately to Newgate people in ill-health, when I have not been able to refuse them admission.

Do you find a difference in the state of health of those persons that are removed from other prisons, in reference to any particular prison from which they may be removed?—Not at all.

Do you examine every prisoner brought in?—It is impossible; I examine every prisoner sent in on the regular moving day, but sometimes the Middlesex magistrates send in people as late as eleven o'clock at night.

Have you been ever called to visit a person removed from another prison to Newgate, who was ill from immediate want of food?—No; patients have occasionally complained to me that that has been the case, but I have had no evidence of the fact; I was called upon to visit a woman who stated she had been without food, except bread and water, for three days; she was certainly in a dying state when she was brought into Newgate; I did not expect she would live till the next morning.

Do you know how long since that was?—Last Monday fortnight, I think.

Do you know what prison she came from?—The New Prison Clerkenwell.

Do you know the woman's name?—No; she has gone back again to Cold-bath Fields.

Has she been tried and convicted?—Yes.

When was she removed from the prison?—The day before yesterday.

Did she continue in that state till the time of her removal?—No, she was better when she was removed; she was taken into the infirmary the night she came, and she remained there till she went away.

Was she in better health then?—Rather; but not much.

Had you supplied her with all necessary articles allowed in the infirmary?—Every thing; the magistrates do not restrict me to any thing.

Having found that she was in that apparently starving state, did you discover that she had any disease?—Yes; an internal complaint; an abscess of the intestines, I have no doubt.

You stated, that last year there was more than the usual state of disease out of doors,

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doors, from the causes you assign?—Yes; from the extreme pressure of the times, a great deal of damp, and something endemic in the atmosphere.

Do you think the over-crowded state of Newgate, from the number of prisoners, is also one of the causes of the increase of the number of patients in the hospital?—I cannot think that, for this reason; because when the prison was half as full again, or as full again, we had not the illness existing; so that we cannot refer it to that cause.

What is the common disorder of Newgate, with the exception of fever, that fill the hospital during the common years?—The venereal disease is always very prevalent there; the itch, ulcerated legs, and very often dropsies.

Have you many cases of the itch in Newgate?—A great many; every sessions produces twenty cases of itch at least.

Have you had any cases of chilblain?—I do not think we have had one this winter,

You have had some women die, have you not?—Four.

Of what disease?—Two of them came into the prison with diseased livers, and died of general dropsy; the other two had no fever, but died of general disease; breaking up of the constitution.

Do you think, that if they had had more provisions than are allowed to them by the prison allowance, it would have tended to have lengthened their lives?—No, they were not on prison allowance; they were in the infirmary, and had as much nourishment as was necessary for any persons.

Can you speak of that from the time they first come into the prison?—They had.

Consequently they were very soon placed under your care?—Yes.

They received as other patients do, the general allowance of the infirmary?—Yes, and they had milk and porter every day.

And as much animal food as was necessary?—Yes; if there is any blame attaches to any person, as to want of proper nourishment in the infirmary, it attaches solely to me.

Have you a general order from the magistrates to supply them with every thing necessary, to bring them into a state of convalescence?—Yes, every thing.

The other two persons had equally enough to support them, and could not in any way be injured in their health from want of support?—Certainly not.

Is the general allowance which the prisoners have sufficient, in your opinion, to support them?—I think the quantity sufficient.

To keep them in health?—Yes; but then I think a great part of that is wasted from the difficulties that they have in cooking it properly; I mean as to meat.

Do you know that there is an alteration made, and a kitchen provided, so that the inhabitants of that gaol will have their meat cooked for them?—Yes.

And when cooked, in the way you understand it to be intended, boiled, and soup delivered, will that remedy the inconvenience you have stated?—I believe perfectly so.

Do you think, upon the present allowance of food, beer is necessary?—I think it certainly would tend to keep up their health, because they are people that have always been used to beer, and coming directly perhaps from diet of that kind to water, must have some effect; and I am not quite certain in my own mind, that the difficulty of getting at beer, has not been one of the predisposing causes of their illness, for their friends will not take the trouble to come and give them sixpence as they used to do, when they could go in and speak to them.

Do you find the dysentery is a disease common?—Very seldom, indeed.

What do you consider to be the purity of the water they drink?—The water appears to be very good; it is very fine spring water.

You spoke of admission at late hours; are you frequently sent for to attend the admission of persons at late hours?—Always when there is any doubt as to the health of the person brought in.

Do you see every prisoner when he is brought in?—No.

Have you any hospital clothing?—No, we have not.

Have you any shirts in cases when it is absolutely necessary, or any other kind of clothing?—I can have shirts at any time I apply for them.

Or shifts?—Yes.

Suppose you had asked for a supply of linen, or any clothing for your patients, might you have had it?—No doubt about it.

What linen has each patient, in case you apply for it?—There is no specific allowance.

Mr. W. H. Box.

Can you clothe a patient completely?—I do not mean to say there is always some in store, but I have never been refused when I have asked.

Have you any quantity of linen, besides shirts and shifts, in your power in the hospital?—No.

Then it is absolutely necessary to apply to some person, before you can get any clothing?—Yes.

Who is that person?—Mr. Brown.

Is any material delay occasioned by that?—No, but seldom.

You have told the Committee that your opinion is, that there has been no increased illness in the gaol, in consequence of the crowded state of it, because the gaol was less sickly at the time it was full; is not that fact explicable, by the prevalence at this time of contagious diseases, which at the former periods were not so prevalent?—Yes, no doubt.

Is it your general opinion, that the gaol is not so crowded as that diseases have sometimes been created and aggravated?—Certainly; in my opinion, in no point of time during the last year or two years, has the prison been so crowded, as to create any idea in my mind, that the increase of sickness has arisen from that circumstance; I believe the prison is capable of holding five hundred very well, perhaps a few more.

Did you not inform the Committee, on their seeing a patient with a very dirty shirt on in the hospital, that you could not obtain shirts?—I do not recollect saying so; and if I did say so, it was not precisely the fact, for I certainly could have had a shirt by applying to Mr. Brown for it; but I do think it would be a great advantage to have, as far as the fever ward went, hospital clothing, as we do in military hospitals.

Is it the custom in hospitals in general, in London, to have hospital linen?—In some cases, not in all.

Can the nurse in the infirmary get clothing or linen whenever she pleases?—This system would not have been at all necessary, had it not been for the governor's illness, for we had arranged nearly three months ago, when we went into the new hospital, to have a regular set of shirts for the hospital, marked as hospital linen, to change the people regularly, but it was not carried into execution on account of his illness.

Why is it not carried into execution now?—It will be directly; but the truth is this, I did not choose to do it when I heard the Committee were going to visit the prison, because it should not be said that I did it merely with that view.

Has there been, during the winter, a deficiency of bedding, which, in your opinion, has been one of the causes of increased disease?—I have stated in my book, on the 17th of December last, that there was a want of bedding, and I believed sleeping on the floor in damp weather was the principal cause of the illness; but it is to be recollected, that having separate sleeping-rooms has certainly done more harm than good under the present regulation, there being a large number in each ward, and having a fire all day, they get warm, and get their skins into a state of perspiration; then they are immediately removed at night to a cold room, which has had no fire in it all day, where their breaths have condensed on the bed-clothes, so that they actually go into damp bed-clothes at night.

Do you not think it would be a very convenient mode of remedying that by lighting fires in their bed rooms?—A fire might be put there, or a brasier might be carried from one ward to another in the course of the day, or they might hang out the bed clothes to dry; but it does not appear to me there is sufficient ventilation in the bed rooms.

So that in point of fact, it is your opinion that the bed rooms, such as they are, are not conducive to the health of the prisoners?—They are not.

Has any material alteration taken place in the allowance of rugs and mats since the year 1810, when you gave in your report for special purposes?—Yes; they have had an increased allowance of mats and rugs.

Are you aware that the increased allowance of mats is at present very small?—It is not sufficient.

They have each two or three rugs a-piece?—By my order, all the transports have three rugs a-piece and a mat.

Do you think that the want of sufficient clothing has been one of the causes of increased illness?—No, I do not.

Have they more clothing at present delivered out to them than they had in 1810?—I can hardly speak to that.

Do

Mr. W. H. Box.

Do you think there is less want of clothes in the prison now than in 1810?—I do not think there is less, because there is a great increase in the number of commitments, and because the state of the prisoners is worse generally; we have a different sort of prisoners, quite now, to what we used to have.

There is more poverty in the prison than there used to be?—I think there is.

With regard to the bread, do you think the present brown bread injures the prisoners?—Certainly not.

Have you examined it from the beginning down to the present day?—I have, from the first day of its being had at the Giltspur-street Compter; and I can state this, that in my opinion the health of the prisoners is better for it.

You mean to give it as your medical opinion, that brown bread is more wholesome than white?—I mean to give it as my medical opinion, that the brown bread we give them now is better than the white bread we got from the baker's.

Do you mean to say, that the dysentery is not increased or provoked by the brown bread?—Certainly not.

There is less alum in the brown bread?—There is none.

Have you seen the wheat?—Yes.

Has it been good?—Generally; there was one parcel sent in by Mr. Ashlin, which was not so good.

Have not the prisoners complained of the brown bread?—Some of them have; but I think it without foundation.

Do you think, that if a proposal was made to the prisoners, whether they would take the fourteen ounces of white, or the sixteen ounces of brown, that they would prefer the last to the first?—I think they would prefer the white.

Do you think it would be better for them if they did?—I think not.

Do you mean to say, that fourteen ounces of good white bread would not nourish a man more than sixteen ounces of this bread?—It is matter of opinion; but I should certainly say, that I should prefer it if the price was equal, and every thing the same, their having the brown bread; I should think it more wholesome for them.

Prior to the time when this brown bread system was brought into Newgate, was the bread as good as the bread you had in your own family?—I was obliged frequently to complain of the white bread, but then that attached only to the baker.

Upon such complaint was it amended?—Always.

Since you have been surgeon to the prison, was not the best price given for the white bread?—Yes.

Did not the prisoners then very constantly complain of the bread that was supplied?—There was not a week that I went round the prison, but there was some complaint.

Do you think the complaints were well or ill founded?—I think in some cases they were well founded, but very often the contrary.

Does Mr. Cotton, the ordinary, attend regularly in the infirmary?—I have seen him in the women's infirmary.

Does he come into the men's infirmary?—I believe he was a little alarmed at the fever that was there.

Did you make any communication to him, that you considered the fever dangerous?—I have said so, undoubtedly.

Has Mr. Cotton ever objected to attending upon the sick when sent for?—I never sent for him.

Does he, in point of fact, attend the sick in the hospital?—It is an invidious thing answering as to the conduct of an officer belonging to the same prison as myself. I certainly never saw him in the male infirmary but once.

Of what period do you speak, that you have never seen him there but once?—I have not seen him in the male infirmary but once since the new infirmaries have been built.

How long has that been?—About three months.

And during that period has been the period of fever?—Yes.

Has any patient, to your knowledge, asked to see Mr. Cotton, and he refused to attend?—Not of my knowledge.

Are there not parts of the infirmary where there are no fever?—Yes, there is the convalescent ward.

Has he ever been there, to your knowledge?—I never saw him there.

Are the Committee to understand, that Mr. Cotton did not regularly visit the infirmary prior to the time mentioned?—I do not remember that he did.

How

Mr. W. H. Box.

How often have you seen him there?—I cannot charge my memory with that; but not often.

Do you mean to assert, that he very rarely attends?—Yes.

You have had several patients die?—Seven.

Did he know that they were in a dying state?—I am sure I cannot answer that question; he knew generally, that there were several cases in the infirmary; but four of those cases who died, were women, and I know he attended them.

In the cases of the men, you do not know whether he knew it or not?—No.

Did he ever offer to attend the sick in either of the wards?—He never offered to me; I have seen clergymen there sometimes, not him, and he may have been there without my knowing it.

If a prisoner wished to see the clergyman, to whom would he communicate that wish?—To the turnkeys, or the governor.

He never asked you, whether there were any prisoners in that state that would require his attendance?—He never did.

Nor he has not been in the habit of visiting the infirmary at all, as far as you know?—No.

Have you certain hours of attendance in the infirmary, or different hours?—The orders from the magistrates are, that I shall attend between ten and three, each day, and whenever wanted besides; and during the session time, before nine in the morning, and again in the day.

Have you complied strictly with that order?—Yes, I have so far as this; if I have been kept from going myself, my father or my assistant, has gone.

Jovis, 5° die Martii, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. *Peter Bedford*, Examined.

Mr. Peter Bedford.

ARE you a member of the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders?—Yes, I am.

How long have you been a member of that society?—About three years, or nearly so.

Have you as one of the active members of that society, been accustomed to visit the different prisons of the Metropolis?—Yes, I have; I was induced to visit Newgate, in consequence of hearing that two boys, one about eleven years of age, and the other about twelve, who were capitally convicted, were likely to be executed; I found them in the school.

How long is it since you have been in the habit of visiting Newgate?—About three years.

Were you accustomed to go through the different yards of Newgate, and to visit the prisoners indiscriminately, or to confine yourself principally to the boys and children in the school?—Principally to the boys and children in the school; I occasionally went into the other yards.

During that visitation, was your inquiry directed to the state of the clothing in which you found the boys and other prisoners?—I was particularly struck with the wretched situation of some of the boys; they were without shoes or stockings, and had hardly clothing some of them to cover their nakedness; some friends of mine made shirts, and gave them.

In point of fact, did you and friends of yours, occasionally supply those boys with clothing, which you considered them to want?—Only those articles I have mentioned; shirts principally.

Any shoes?—No.

How long is it ago since you last visited Newgate?—I was there this morning.

Prior to this morning, how long is it since you were there?—Yesterday; I went to speak to the boys Spicer and Kelly.

Within the last twelve months, have you seen amongst the boys, any deficiency of clothing?—Yes; considerable.

For any length of period; supposing the boy to come in a month before the sessions, how long have you seen him in the same state of want of clothing you have described?—I cannot correctly answer that question.

Any considerable time?—Yes; certainly.

Mr.
Peter Bedford.

Describe what deficiency of clothing you have witnessed?—I have seen them without shoes, without stockings, and without a shirt repeatedly.

In general, would you say that the boys that were in the school, were well or ill clothed?—Ill clothed.

Have you during the last winter, seen boys in the school in the state you have described?—Yes; I do not now recollect whether I have seen them without shirts lately.

You have without shoes or stockings?—Yes, as far as my recollection now serves me, I have no doubt of it.

Do you recollect a boy there of the name of Sidebotham, within the last two months?—I know there was a boy of that name there.

Did you see him in a state of considerable nudity?—I saw several in that state, but I do not particularly recollect him.

Are you accustomed to take notes, when you go into the prison, of the condition in which you find the prisoners?—Yes, I am.

Have you those about you?—I have a few memoranda.

Look to them, and give the Committee, if you are enabled so to do, instances of the kind to which you have referred?—With respect to food and clothing, I have made a few observations, which I will read, with the permission of the Committee. The allowance of food appears to me too small, and that it is scarcely possible for prisoners in health to subsist on the present allowance, unless they are assisted by their friends.

You know what the allowance is?—Yes, I do.

What do you understand the allowance to be?—Fourteen ounces of white bread or a pound of brown, per day, and two pounds of meat per week; I understand they have no means of cooking this meat, which, I think, is a great disadvantage; by that I mean that they have no utensils; many of the boys, particularly those from twelve to seventeen, appear to suffer much; their wants have been such as to induce the society to which I belong, to purchase bread for the most necessitous, which was always received with strong marks of gratitude; I have frequently observed boys, when first committed to the prison, in good health, very soon after appear sickly, emaciated and diseased; when they go to the Refuge, we often find them afflicted with the itch. This, I apprehend, arises chiefly in consequence of the dirty situation they are in, particularly from the filthy condition of their bedding; the state of their health arises principally from their not having proper food, clothes and bedding. There are now twenty-one boys in the school, committed for various offences; highway robbery, privately stealing, shop-lifting, picking pockets. There were, about a week ago, in the school, three boys, who had hardly clothes to cover their nakedness; this I have repeatedly seen with much regret. The day after I was there they had clothes given them; but there are some this morning in a very bad state.

Do you know when those were brought in;—I do not recollect the exact time.

Do you consider the arrangements of the prison, with respect to the boys, improved, or otherwise, during the last twelve months?—The whole system adopted in Newgate has always appeared to me to be radically defective; there is a want of proper classification and employment throughout the prison, both of which I conceive to be essential to the reformation of offenders. I consider the arrangements for the accommodation of juvenile prisoners less efficient than they were twelve months ago; formerly there were four apartments allotted to the boys; namely, a school-room, a day-room, and two sleeping-rooms; when those commodious apartments were thus appropriated, they could accommodate a considerable number, and I have known as many as between fifty and sixty young persons at one time confined in those apartments. I consider the separation of so many youths from the contaminating influence of adult offenders, to have been of great advantage; but now, from the removal of the school to the two small rooms occupied for this purpose, the benefits of the school are very much abridged; for since the removal to the present rooms, in which there are only twenty-one boys, the lads are necessarily placed with the adult offenders in the several yards, where they are, of course, exposed to the constant association of the most atrocious and hardened criminals. Defective as I believe the school to be, in many respects, inasmuch as the children are not classed according to their crimes, and are in habits of idleness when not actually engaged in school hours, I apprehend, that if any arrangement were made by which the lads were separated from the men, who frequently delight, by their conversation and manners, to vitiate the character and confirm the guilty propensities of the youths, much benefit would result.

You have stated, that from the time of one sessions to another, you did not know how long the boys have been in that state of which you complain?—I do not recollect the exact time which they might have been in confinement.

Did you complain to any persons that had any command of that prison of the state of their dress?—I conversed with the ordinary. I told him of it, and he was fully sensible of it; for he regretted it as much as I did.

You were not aware that the ordinary had no power of ordering clothing?—I considered that he had no power to do so.

Did you ever mention it to the keeper of the prison?—I believe I mentioned it to the late keeper, not to the present. I am not, however, certain.

More than once?—I do not recollect.

You never did mention to Mr. Brown, since he has been keeper, the state in which the boys dress was?—No, I never spoke to him on the subject.

You stated, that in the former arrangement there were four rooms instead of two, and there were then sixty boys occasionally?—Yes.

You now state that there are but two small rooms; do you recollect the size of the former rooms, and the size of the present, whether the present rooms are not as large nearly as the former ones were?—They are considerably smaller.

The number of boys is reduced, at the present moment, to twenty-one?—Yes, which I regret; because so many boys are now necessarily in the yards.

In what respects, the number being reduced to twenty-one persons instead of sixty, having two rooms instead of four, do you find it defective?—My regret arose from this circumstance, that there are many boys in different parts of the prison, that I wish might be placed in the school; I inquired this morning, and find there are nearly twenty boys under eighteen years of age in the untried yard; I was informed so this morning.

How many boys are there now in the prison, to your knowledge, that are fitted for the school?—I am not prepared to answer that question, but I should think, a considerable number.

You have stated, that you have been in the habit for the last three years, of visiting Newgate; how often, in the course of a week, a fortnight or a month, have you gone in?—Occasionally, as it suited my convenience; perhaps, on the average, my colleagues and myself visit the prison once a week; sometimes much more frequently.

What is the date of the memorandum you have just read to the Committee?—It was made this morning.

Have you any memorandum in that book, relative to the condition in which you found the boys in the school, of an earlier date than this morning?—I have not; memoranda of an earlier date have been made in books which I have not now with me.

That memorandum was made this morning from your then recollection of circumstances?—Yes; it contains the impression that has been made on my mind by frequent visits.

From the recollection of what had passed before your view at the various visits you have made within the last twelve months?—Yes.

It having been stated by an officer of Newgate, that he considered the separation of the boys from the men as pernicious, as generally speaking, the boys are more depraved than the men; what is your opinion of the propriety of separating the boys from the men?—I am decidedly of opinion, that they should be separated from the men, and classed according to their crimes and their characters.

Your opinion is, that they should be, if possible, kept in separate cells; separate altogether?—I think they should be classed; but the difficulty of keeping them entirely separate in Newgate, would be such that it cannot be expected.

What kind of classification do you think should be effected?—According to the degrees of crime, and their character, and the nature of their crimes.

Whether he is a young beginner, or an old offender?—Yes.

And that the classes should be kept entirely separate?—Yes.

You are one of the Committee of the Refuge for the Destitute?—Yes, I am.

Is there any difficulty found there in making that classification amongst boys who are committed, that leads to that moral improvement which you wish to attain?—Very considerable, from the want of room, and the low state of the funds; yet I have been much gratified in seeing the very great improvement that has arisen from proper care and attention paid to the boys who have been placed in that institution.

What

Mr. *Peter Bedford.*

What number of boys are there in the Refuge?—I think there are about fifty-six; they are principally boys.

What extent of accommodation have you for that number?—It is limited.

How many classes are there?—They are employed in different trades; there is a distinct class of each particular and distinct trade; one class of shoemakers, another of basket-makers, and so on.

You have no class as to their offences?—They are first employed in a probationary way, and according to their capacity and conduct they are classed.

You receive a good many persons from Newgate into that institution?—Yes.

Who have been found guilty, sentenced to a fine of a shilling and discharged, with an understanding that they were to be sent to that institution?—Yes.

You have others that are sent in from magistrates occasionally, have you not?—Yes.

And some obtain introduction by their friends, by an application to the committee from their parents and others?—Yes; they are not admitted on the order of a magistrate; the committee judge of every particular case.

Do you class in your institution the persons agreeably to the offences they have committed, and the characters which they bear?—They are first placed, as I before stated, in a probationary part of the institution, and according to their conduct and character they are put to the different trades; this is the classification we have in the institution, according to our very limited means of accommodation.

Do they associate at their meals?—Yes.

And in their hours of leisure from that business or occupation?—Yes, they do, which is much to be regretted; but it cannot be avoided under existing circumstances.

How are they slept at night; are they classed at nights according to trades, or do they sleep in dormitories together?—The accommodation does not admit of their being properly classed; each boy has a hammock to himself.

Then in fact, although separated in the probationary way you have alluded to, as to trade, they all associate together at various parts of the day?—They do; and I repeat my regret that this is the case; much greater improvement would arise from their being differently classed, but the limited room and limited funds of the institution prevent it.

But even the limited accommodation and instruction they are able to have, has been productive of good effects?—Great good.

What is the common condition of the boys who were sent to the Refuge from Newgate?—They are generally very ragged and dirty, and often have the itch.

Are they not generally in a worse condition than those who come from other quarters?—I think they are much worse.

Do you take them from any other prisons?—From the House of Correction, Coldbath Fields, the boys are generally much cleaner.

What kind of boys are those, what is the nature of their crimes?—Of every description almost.

In what way are they received from Coldbath Fields?—After being discharged completely destitute.

Then they are those who have served out their time under their sentences in the House of Correction?—Yes.

And they come to you with the prison dress?—I believe not; their own clothes are laid by on their admission into the prison, and they are provided in that prison with a comfortable dress, a suitable prison dress, such a dress as I should wish the prisoners to have in Newgate; their own clothes are given them again on their coming out.

If they should not have shoes and stockings of their own when they go into the prison, of course they will still come to you with shoes and stockings?—I do not remember to have seen them in the prison clothes or shoes, or the prison stockings, which are of a particular description.

What is the proportion you get from Newgate and Coldbath Fields; is the number greater from Newgate than from Coldbath Fields?—By far greater from Newgate than from any other place.

You understand that in Coldbath Fields, are those who have been tried at the County Sessions for minor offences, those charged with the greater offences being sent to Newgate?—I apprehend that is the case; yet there are many from Newgate under sentence for various periods.

Are you aware, that the boys that are taken from Newgate may not have been in Newgate four-and-twenty hours before they come to you?—That is possible to be the

Mr. Peter Bedford.

the case; yet I do not apprehend such a circumstance ever occurred, at least not within my knowledge.

On the contrary, the prisoner that comes from the House of Correction has been there either six months, twelve months, or two years?—Some only three months.

Have you ever received into the Refuge for the Destitute any boy whom you had seen in Newgate before, and who had been there a considerable time?—Yes.

How long?—Several months.

Are the Committee to understand, that he was sent from Newgate to the Refuge?—Certainly, these cases frequently occur; several I recollect have been under sentence of death, and released on an application made to the Secretary of State, upon condition of being placed in the Refuge for the Destitute.

What is in your opinion the most efficient measure that could be adopted in a gaol, to lessen the increase of juvenile delinquency?—The Committee with which I am connected, have bestowed much pains on the investigation of this interesting subject, and they are decidedly of opinion, that the most efficient measure which can be adopted to lessen the increase of juvenile delinquency, will be the establishment of a prison expressly for the confinement of boys. It appears by the returns printed by the Police Committee, that in the last year there were committed to Newgate only, for trial, four hundred and twenty-nine males under twenty years of age, of those two hundred and forty-seven were seventeen and under; the extent, therefore, of juvenile delinquency being so considerable, it has become extremely desirable that a separate gaol should be appropriated to the confinement of boys upon a system adapted to the reformation of youth, and which should of course combine all the advantages of education, classification, and employment.

During the various times that you have visited Newgate, have you often met Mr. Cotton there?—Very frequently; he has paid, I conceive, great attention to the interests of the prisoners; I generally find him interesting himself in cases of particular distress.

Have you ever visited the sick ward?—I seldom go there.

Did you ever meet Mr. Cotton there?—No, I have not met him there.

You have stated, that you have never spoken to Mr. Brown, the present keeper, on the subject of the want of clothing, but have to the former keeper?—I believe I might have represented it to the former keeper, of whose humanity I am well convinced; but in this case I apprehend he had no power to afford relief.

Have you ever communicated to Mr. Brown, the governor, the situation of those lads who appeared so naked?—No.

After your visits, when you had seen the deficiency of clothing of the boys, have you at other times observed that they have been clothed?—I have found that they had an occasional supply of clothes; but those I understood were used generally in order to attend the chapel; that after they had had the clothes lent to them for this purpose, the boys were in their ragged and almost naked state again; those clothes I apprehend were laid by.

Did you understand that they had clothes to go to chapel, which were afterwards taken from them?—I did so.

You do not know that of your own knowledge?—I was informed it was so.

Did you believe that to be the case?—I did.

Did you see the boys tolerably well dressed one day, and in their rags again afterwards?—I have noticed this; I recollect seeing one boy in particular, a boy of the name of Smith, that was so circumstanced.

Did you see him in the chapel?—No.

Of whom did you get that information?—It was the late schoolmaster.

That is a twelvemonth ago then, is it not?—No, I believe it is about six or nine months.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, or have you heard, that the boys have sold their shoes and stockings, and other clothing, very soon after they have been delivered to them?—I have never heard that.

And no part of their clothes, in any given instance?—I never heard any thing of the kind.

You know that they were, on one or two occasions, extremely riotous, and broke every window in their room?—I recollect the circumstance.

Do you know what they assigned as the cause of it?—I do not now recollect the cause; I most probably heard it stated then; it is a considerable time since.

They broke also all the utensils allowed them, such as mugs and other things that were necessary for their use?—Yes.

Mr. Peter Bedford.

How long ago was that?—I think two years ago.

That was during the time that the numbers were so large?—I believe it might be.

In reference to the opinion you have given respecting the food, are you aware there is a new regulation about to be adopted in respect to food?—I have been so informed since I came here to-day.

Do you think if that was adopted, that the food would be sufficient?—It would be a great improvement, though I am not fully aware of the exact quantity, whether there is to be an increase of bread or not; I think there should be an increase of bread.

That you say of course conditionally, if there is an increase of the whole quantity of food, the present quantity of bread may be sufficient?—Yes, it may.

You consider a pound of bread, such as that delivered to them, not sufficient for the maintenance of the boys?—I consider that it is not sufficient, and that their health has suffered in many instances, in consequence of their not having had a sufficient supply of food.

Has your attention in Newgate been solely confined to the boys?—Principally so.

Are the boys generally more depraved than the men?—Certainly not; it is a very mistaken opinion. Youth, under proper management, are decidedly more susceptible of moral and religious impressions than adults. The situation of a boy on his being first committed to Newgate, appears to me to be exceedingly distressing. Lads of reputable parents are sometimes placed in the receiving yard with very desperate characters. I have now a youth under my care, the son of respectable parents, who were formerly in business in St. James's-street; his father died while he was young, and his mother sent him six years to a boarding school; for a very slight offence, from a cause over which he could have little or no control, he was taken up and placed in the receiving yard at Newgate, the common receiving yard.

On the side for untried prisoners?—Yes; in the place where I saw the murderer Haitch such a lad as this was placed.

How old was he?—About sixteen; he informed me that he had to pay the wardsman sixpence a week, and the fireman two-pence a week, and he was extremely ill-treated.

Did he inform you for what and by whom?—By some desperate characters that were confined in the same yard.

Did he inform you for what he paid that sixpence to the wardsman, and two-pence to the fireman?—It was a demand made upon him; and they forced from him part of the little pittance of money which his friends had given him.

How long ago was that?—I think it was the ninth month last, called September.

Did not you think it worth your while to communicate to the governor upon such extortion?—The boy was then released from Coldbath Fields Prison; his sentence was three months imprisonment there; and on his quitting that prison, or at least while in that prison, he gave me this information.

What he told you was afterwards, when he was in Coldbath Fields?—Yes.

As you were in the habit of visiting the prison of Newgate once a fortnight, did you ever mention this to Mr. Brown, the keeper?—No; I communicated it to some gentlemen with whom I am associated, but not to the keeper.

How long was he in Newgate do you know, before the month of September?—I think about three weeks; two or three weeks.

He never told you who the wardsman was?—I believe he did, but I do not recollect his name now.

Did he tell you, that it was the custom when he was in Newgate, for the prisoners to pay this sort of contribution, and that he was called upon to pay only that which others had done?—He only mentioned what related to himself, but I clearly understood from him that it was the custom.

Did you understand, that they called for it in the nature of garnish?—He did not use that term, but I supposed it was of that nature.

You said there was sixpence for the wardsman, and two-pence for fire money; did he say to what use it was to be applied?—No.

Did you understand it was at all for the use of the other fellow prisoners?—No.

Did not you question him yourself, as to what the application of the sixpence was?—No.

Whether for accommodation of any kind, or otherwise?—No, I did not; he considered the demand to be an imposition, and they compelled him to pay the money.

Do you know whether there is a practice of levying a small sum of money, for the use of the utensils for preparing the food?—I believe that is required of them; I know it was the case.

Mr. Peter Bedford.

Do you know to whom any money is paid for that purpose?—No, I really do not.

You cannot give the Committee any information, as to any persons that are, at the present moment, exacting any money from prisoners of any class whatever?—No, I cannot.

Have you had occasion to remark, that there is greater room to complain of the deficiency of clothing, within the last six months, than there was at former periods of your visits?—I think not; I think that matters are in that respect about the same as they were.

There has no material improvement taken place in that respect?—No, not any.

Has any deficiency of shirts been remarked by you lately?—I believe, at the present time, many of the boys have only one shirt, therefore it is impossible for them to keep themselves clean.

Have you met with any obstructions, during your visits to the prison, in any thing you undertook for the benefit of the prisoners, either from Mr. Cotton, Mr. Brown, or Mr. Box, or any of the other officers of the prison?—I generally have ready access to the different parts of the prison to which I request to go.

Have Mr. Cotton, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Box, generally assisted you, in so far as you could reasonably expect assistance from them, in your undertaking for the good of the prisoners?—H. S. Cotton, the ordinary, has very frequently assisted me in particular cases of distress.

You have had no occasion to ask the assistance of the two other gentlemen?—I have not asked the assistance of either of them.

Have you ever mentioned to Mr. Brown, or Mr. Box, the deficiency you have perceived in the clothing or food of the boys?—I stated before, that I had not mentioned it to the keeper; I never conferred with the surgeon on the subject.

You did not think it consistent with your situation to confer with the medical man, how far they were or were not supplied with a sufficiency of provisions?—No, I did not wish improperly to interfere.

You contented yourself with relieving those distresses, which you thought wanted relief, and left to the discretion of the governors and keepers of the prison, to supply those wants, which you considered it was their business to do?—Yes, I did certainly.

Without communicating to them at all your opinion?—Yes; I did not consider that to be my duty.

Stephen Lushington Esquire, LL.D. called in; and Examined.

S. Lushington, Esq.

DO you belong to the Society for assisting in the Prevention of Juvenile Offences?—I do; I am one of the committee.

Have you often visited Newgate?—I have been, I suppose, eight or ten times since November last.

From November to the present period, have you often been struck with the condition in which the prisoners were for want of clothing?—Several times; I have seen many prisoners in want of clothing, but more especially the boys; I have seen one or two boys without shoes or stockings, and entirely in a state of destitution.

Do you know whether they had been in Newgate any considerable length of time prior to your so seeing them?—I cannot say as to all; some of them had been in prison some time.

So that in the different visits you paid, you might have seen a person in that state of destitution on one visit, and found him when you returned again in the same state?—Past all doubt.

Have you ever made any observations to the keeper of the prison upon the condition in which you saw the prisoners?—No, I have not.

What was the general condition and appearance of the boys, their general health?—I do not think that the general appearance and condition of the boys was good; but when I have been there, there have seldom been above two or three, who were actually ill; I have seen two or three in the school, who have been very ill at the time I have visited Newgate.

Was their general appearance that of squalid poverty, and apparent bad health, arising from any cause?—The appearance of the boys was so varied, that I should be unable to give any general description of them; some were apparently in perfect health, others seemed as if they had suffered very much from want, and again others appeared to be very much reduced; indeed I could not give any general description applying to the whole.

Did

S. Lushington, Esq.

Did the boys make any complaint of the insufficiency of the food?—No, not to me; I should say I have always been particularly careful in visiting Newgate, as to the questions I asked, and what I did, and upon this principle I was afraid, that if I went too far in my inquiries I might be prevented access into that prison again, and therefore I have restrained myself within those bounds which would prevent any possibility of my being excluded.

Is it your opinion, that the food which you know the boys and other prisoners have been accustomed to receive, is sufficient to support their bodily health?—I am quite certain it is not; I am also assured of it, by reference to what is done in other prisons; the allowance used to be fourteen ounces of white bread per day, and four half pounds of meat per week; that has been the allowance; and I know in other gaols that allowance has been found insufficient for the purpose of keeping the individuals therein confined in health, and has been increased; I allude particularly to Maidstone gaol, where it was done under the directions of the late Dr. Day; I should also observe, that of late, but I cannot particularly specify the period, there was an alteration made in Newgate, and the bread was changed from white to brown; at one time the brown bread so given was of a very inferior quality, but sixteen ounces were allowed instead of fourteen. I was in Newgate yesterday, and I saw the bread, and a very material change for the better has taken place, and now, though it has some of the bran in it, it is a sweet wholesome good bread.

In what respect was it inferior and bad in quality?—The bread, after the first change which took place from white to brown was clammy, moist, heavy and bad in every respect.

Was there any thing the matter with the flour, the meal?—I should think it was very inferior flour; that it was flour which had been in some degree heated.

Did you observe the bread to be in that state on more than one occasion?—Yes, certainly; I cannot say more than two, but I should think two or three; it excited a great deal of attention, and Mrs. Fry, in consequence of the bread being so very bad, brought some of it away, and one evening at her house we examined it particularly.

Are you able to state from an examination of it, that the meal was not good?—I am not a sufficient judge of bread to state the causes which rendered it bad; it was bad and heavy bread, and appeared to me to be made of bad flour; I should say that the defect was not entirely from the baking, but must have arisen in a great degree from the materials; if it had been from the baking it would have been an accidental circumstance; but certainly I observed it twice if not three times.

Was it the same throughout the whole quantity?—I should think pretty nearly so.

At what period was that?—The month of January last.

As you have been frequently at Newgate, have you not been there at times when the bread has been otherwise than that you have described?—I have stated that the white bread was good bread; that when the brown was introduced and the quantity increased, it was in my opinion very indifferent and bad; afterwards a change took place, precisely when I cannot state, but when I last examined the bread, and yesterday the bread was brown bread of a good wholesome and excellent quality.

You do not recollect, whether between the first time that you saw it in a bad state, and the second, you saw it good?—I should say to my recollection, certainly not.

What interval was there between the times of your finding it bad?—I should suppose four or five days, or thereabouts.

During the visits you have paid to Newgate, did you ever go to the condemned cells?—Repeatedly.

In what state did you find the persons therein confined?—When I have been in the condemned cells, there was no person absolutely in them at the time, it was in the middle of the day.

The question does not refer to the cell itself, but to the quarter called the Press Yard; do you recollect the number of persons who were there?—I do at times; once in particular I can state, there were forty-three there.

Did you understand that they were confined three in a cell?—That must of necessity happen, because there are but fifteen cells.

Had you any conversation with persons that were under sentence?—Yes.

Were any complaints made to you by any of them, as to the hardship that they felt in being mixed indiscriminately with persons of all characters?—I cannot speak to that of my own personal knowledge, I never had such a conversation as gave any opportunity for that.

Have the goodness to state, whether you observed any greater degree of indecent or immoral conduct in the prisoners in Newgate, than you have observed to prevail at Maidstone, or any other well regulated gaol with which you are acquainted? —No.

Mr. *William Robert Henry Brown,* further Examined.

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

HAVE you any knowledge, since you have been keeper of Newgate, that persons have been clothed to go to chapel, and their clothes have been taken from them again; man, woman, or boy, or any prisoner within the prison of Newgate?—I never knew of such a practice.

Did you ever hear of such a practice?—No.

Either before or since you have been keeper of Newgate?—No.

Have you ever heard that they have been given to them one day, and taken from them the next?—I never heard a report of the kind; if such a report had come to me, I should have inquired into it.

Do you remember a boy of the name of Smith being clothed, and his clothing being gone the following day?—There are so many Smiths, I cannot exactly recollect which is referred to, but no circumstance of the kind strikes my mind; most of the boys who come in there, if they are under sixteen, go to the school; therefore if there has been a boy of that name, the books will show it.

In the time of the former master?—I should not be at all surprized at any thing that was done before my time; the practices carried on while that man was there, I have heard. I firmly believe very improper practices were carried on while he was in the school, and will ever be the case while a transport has the care of the boys. I think it is out of my power to prevent malpractices, let me take what pains I will, while that is the case.

You have stated in your former evidence, that they do get from the prisoners two-pence or three-pence a week, as you understand, for fire-money, or for cooking?—I know an instance that was communicated to me when the last persons included in the report to the Prince Regent, were in the cells; that Johnson, a wardsman, was in the habit of taking as much as eight or nine shillings a week in a condemned room in the cells, from the different prisoners; I made every inquiry into the fact, and examined the people apart, but I could not make out any such case; but there was a penny or two-pence collected among the condemned prisoners who could raise the money, merely for the purchase of candles. I mentioned in my former evidence, that candles were not allowed by the prison, but they were purchased by themselves.

Is there any thing collected among them for the use of utensils?—If the wardmans furnishes a saucepan, or any thing beyond what the prison allows, it is clearly understood, that the prisoners pay it amongst themselves.

That is for the use of small saucepans and other things for cooking?—Some things for their own immediate use; but that is in a great measure done away since I came there.

What are the utensils that are found by the City for cooking?—I cannot bring them to my immediate recollection, but I will furnish the account; that is chiefly under the direction of Mr. King, who is employed by the Committee of City Lands.

There is one large fountain, or boiler, to each fire-place?—Yes, there is.

How long is it since the rooms belonging to the Press Yard were white-washed? —I do not recollect the time, but I think it was at the time when we had the two reports unsettled, that I directed, when the report of the one Sessions was made, that those below stairs should go into the upper ward, and then that it should be white-washed; I should have done it sooner, but I thought it a dangerous thing to attempt it with so many men in the winter season; I think it was in October or November last.

Was there not scraping and white-washing going on three weeks or a month ago, in the rooms belonging to the Press Yard?—No, I know of nothing but that room in October last, and I never saw any thing but that room, and that was done under my directions. It often happens that the passages get very dirty in the winter season, there being so many passing in and out, but not the rooms.

Had you any directions from any person, the City Magistrates, or any individual, so to do?—Certainly not; but since October I particularly desired our superintendents, or workmen, not to whitewash any wards where men slept, except in case of absolute necessity.

Was there any white-washing or scraping done in consequence of an idea that this

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

Committee was to visit the prison?—No, none at all.

Either by you or by any other persons, with that view?—Certainly not; and I did not expect, nor do I believe, that any persons knew that the Committee were to visit the prison.

Have you given out a quantity of clothing, at any certain time, to any part of the prison, and since that have you made a discovery of any deficiency?—About three weeks or a month ago, I gave out a quantity in the fines yard, among the Irish people; I gave out a quantity of shoes, stockings, shirts, and jackets, and I took a cursory view, and inquired yesterday, and could get no account from a great many of them, what they had done with them; one boy in particular, whom I completely clothed; I gave him a jacket, drawers, shirt, shoes and stockings, I asked him to produce all those things yesterday; he said they were upstairs; I desired him to go and fetch them me, he staid up some time, I then followed him, however his jacket and shirt were gone entirely; he said his sister had them, and she lived in St. Giles's; but whenever I go round the prison, or any gentleman goes round, it is generally communicated, and I have reason to believe, that many persons who choose to play off a trick on people's feelings who come there, will hide their clothes, and appear in rags to excite compassion.

Did you ever trace that to be the fact?—I never traced it as a fact, but I have had strong suspicions of it; for I have seen those persons in a day or two afterwards, very differently attired than they had been before; but that has been particularly amongst the fines and the misdemeanors, who are the very worst description of characters we have in the prison.

Is any prison mark put upon the clothes with which you supply them?—No.

Can you state any particular instance of a prisoner hiding his clothes?—No, but I have seen them, when I have gone round again, attired quite differently, not in so deplorable a state; which is, in my mind, evidence of their doing it for the purpose of exciting compassion.

Can you state the quantity of clothes distributed within the last three weeks?—I have given it in to the Committee; I gave out some shoes, stockings, and shirts, within this week; there is no doubt that a great quantity of clothing gets out of the prison, by means of the visitors being admitted to the interior of the prison, and that will be the case while they are so admitted.

How often has service been performed on a Sunday, since you have been keeper of Newgate?—Never more than once in the day, till last Sunday; Mr. Cotton asked me, on Friday, what should be done about it; I said I must leave that entirely to his own discretion, as the afternoon service has never been performed in my time, though I wonder it has not been performed; and I think it is proper it should be.

Were you aware that it was ordered by the Court of Aldermen, that service should be performed twice a day on Sunday?—No, I was never aware of it; I understood from Mr. Cotton, that he and Mr. Newman settled it between themselves; they were afraid of some escape, or something of that kind; but as to the idea of escape, because of the chapel service being performed, I think that completely futile.

Is there any person acts regularly as clerk in the chapel at present?—No.

Has there been any person as clerk since you have been keeper at Newgate?—No; there has not as a chapel clerk.

Have you heard that there was a clerk there before?—Yes.

Do you know by whom he was appointed?—I do not.

Upon whom do you put irons when they are admitted into the prison?—Upon all persons committed for felony; that has been the general practice and custom.

Are they not put upon any other persons than those who are committed for felony?—No; not for misdemeanors, never.

For what reason do you think it necessary to put irons on prisoners before conviction?—I have given my answer to that in my former evidence; the only reason I assign for putting irons on at all, is for the purpose of safe custody; and I am afraid that system must be continued while visitors are suffered to go into the yards and wards; were that done away with, I am convinced we could do away with the irons altogether, by adopting the plan recommended by the magistrates who visited the country gaols.

Do you not think it a great hardship to put irons on persons who are not convicted of any offence?—Most undoubtedly; custom has produced it; there is no other reason to be assigned.

Then

Mr.
W. R. H. Brown.

Then the Committee is to understand, that irons are equally put upon a person who is committed to Newgate for the slightest felony, and although he has never been seen there before, and upon a person committed on a charge of murder, who may have been in Newgate twenty times before on charges of other offences?—It is the uniform practice to put irons on all persons committed on a charge of felony, whether for stealing privately in a shop, or whatever it may be.

You have alluded to a plan for the regulation of visiting; have the goodness to state what that is?—In the report of the visiting magistrates of London, who visited various gaols in the country, they have stated and recommended, that no visitors should be admitted to the interior of the yards and wards, but have a six feet railing, separate space between the rails where their friends should be permitted to converse with the prisoners, and a desk put at each end for the purpose of communication, should a solicitor attend to take instructions for their defence; a thing of that sort, would perhaps prevent the use of irons; I think it would, except in the case of very hardened offenders.

When a man is brought into Newgate, is any inquiry made, whether he is an old offender, or whether the present charge be his first offence?—That is one of the first objects I endeavour to ascertain.

What difference of treatment, if both are equally ironed, do they experience in consequence of any such difference as may appear between their characters?—No difference of treatment; they are sent to the same yard and the same ward on the untried side, except when the untried side of the prison is rather thin, which is now the case, the sessions being just over; I then endeavour to make the best selection I can, by taking the most decent ones and putting them amongst themselves; and that I have done this morning, of prisoners who were admitted yesterday.

Do you apprehend that there would be any greater difficulty in devising some means by which untried prisoners, with the exceptions of those known to be hardened offenders, might be kept in safe custody without being ironed, although but little alteration should be made in the reception of visitors?—I think not; I think while the present system exists, of admitting visitors into the interior of the prison, that cannot be safely done; unless you strip the women completely naked, you cannot tell what they will bring into the prison, or what they will take out; and it is possible that they can bring in apparel of some sort that may deceive the turnkeys; a case occurred of something of the same sort last Sunday; there was a plan laid on behalf of a prisoner, for his wife to bring in things into the prison in a particular way, so that he might attempt to make his escape.

Speaking with reference to the use of irons, do you think that the single exception of the admission of solicitors of the prisoners would be attended with any danger?—I should desire the turnkeys, to call out a prisoner into an adjoining room, and let him see the solicitor there; but just before a sessions, we could not give them a room for each solicitor, therefore they must take their turn at the desk, which I have proposed to be provided for their accommodation.

Are you aware how many, or what proportion of those who are committed for felonies, are subsequently convicted?—I can furnish a statement of that, for several preceding years, if it is wished.

Have you ever taken notice of the proportion of those who are sent into Newgate, in any period, for first offences, compared with those who have been before convicted?—I have not made out such an account, but I will endeavour to do it; I have began an account, for my own information, upon that principle, for five-and-twenty years, taking the progress of every crime which has been tried at the Old Bailey for that time.

What is the weight of the heaviest and lightest irons used in Newgate?—The heaviest with basils round each leg, about 5 lbs. and the lightest, about 2½ lbs; but when only single irons are used, about half the weight.

Lunæ, 9° *die Martii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in The Chair.

Mr. *W. R. H. Brown* again called in;

And having delivered in some Papers which he had been directed to prepare by the Committee, was further examined.

Mr. *W. R. H. Brown.*

STATE to the Committee a circumstance that occurred on Saturday, with regard to the pawning and selling of clothes?—It appeared upon my going round the prison, that William Davis, who was a transport, who had had a pair of shoes given him on the 27th of February, had sold them to a man who is the servant to a publican, and attends to supply the ale; before he went out he asked the passage man, who is a prisoner, who goes to different parts of the prison on errands, if there was any harm in purchasing them; the man said there was harm, because they were given out of the gaol stores, and that he must not take them away; the shoes were taken back by the turnkey, for which the man who sold them was to have a shilling; I have no doubt these practices are continually repeated, in consequence of the communication there is by persons going into the interior; this thing was stopped in its progress, otherwise he was to have a shilling for the very shoes I had given him on the 27th of February. Another circumstance occurred on the 7th of March, where a shirt was stopped belonging to a man of the name of Bartlett; it was sent out to be pawned; the shirt was given by me to this man, on the 5th of February last.

You had a woman brought in from Cambridge last Thursday; tell the Committee in what manner she was brought to you?—On Thursday afternoon two men and a woman were left in Newgate to be lodged for the night, preparatory to the men going to Woolwich, and the woman to the Penitentiary; they were brought from Cambridge, under the charge of the keeper of the Cambridge prison; the woman's name was Maria Green; the keeper had Lord Sidmouth's order to convey her to the Penitentiary; when I got home I was informed she was chained by both legs; I immediately ordered inquiry to be made at the different inns in the neighbourhood, to find the keeper, but without effect; I went up into the ward to see her, and I found her chained between her legs, with the chain fastened to a basil (which is what the chain is fixed to) above each ancle, and at the end of this chain there was a ring, which is put there for the purpose of holding a string to tie round the middle; in fact she was chained as male prisoners are, and she was brought in this state from Cambridge; I thought it highly disgraceful and improper, and I ordered the turnkeys to look about for keys, if they could to get them off, but we had no keys that would fit, and she was obliged to remain in that state all night; when the keeper came in the morning I desired that I should see him, and I remonstrated with him upon the impropriety of chaining a young woman like her, she was a very decent girl, and I thought there was no necessity for it, I thought she was perfectly safe as she was only going to the Penitentiary, and what is very extraordinary, she was brought in the inside of the stage, where of course there could be no chance of escape; however, I told the keeper I thought he had done wrong, and I thought he would hear of it again, and it laid with him to justify the measure; with respect to the men, I ordered as I always do when prisoners are brought from the different country gaols, that they shall have every accommodation given them during the night, and I inquired of them what they had had on their journey; and they said they had had nothing given them all the way, but they had money of their own and were left to provide for themselves.

Does the keeper of Newgate supply the prisoners that come from the country, with the same allowance the other prisoners have?—I desire the turnkeys to see that the prisoners are provided with provisions by the keepers who bring them; I take them on those conditions, and I should not think it proper to take them on any other.

What age was this girl?—I suppose seventeen or eighteen; I believe they conveyed her to the Penitentiary in chains; I understood her offence was stealing something from a shop.

In case convicts are brought for transportation and remain some time with you, at whose expense do they remain?—They never remain more than a night.

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

Could not you have knocked this woman's irons off?—I could not get them off, they were irons that locked; the chains were bright and were not very heavy, but they were brought up between her legs under her petticoats, and tied round her waste.

Mr. John Teague called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Teague.

WHAT office do you hold?—Keeper of the Giltspur-street Prison and Governor of the House of Correction.

How long has the House of Correction been established?—Since the latter part of the year 1815.

How long have you been keeper?—Since the year 1804.

What salary do you receive?—800*l.* a year.

What other allowances?—None whatever except a house to live in; no coals or candles, or any thing of that sort.

Who are you appointed by?—By the Sheriffs and the Court of Aldermen.

The last time you gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, you were taking fees?—Yes.

What was your salary at that time?—280*l.* for Giltspur-street, and 100*l.* for Ludgate, besides fees and bed money.

Are you ready to state now, that you do not receive fees in any way or shape whatever?—None whatever; no kind of emolument except my salary.

State to the Committee the description of prisoners that are committed to your charge?—In the House of Correction we receive, after the end of the Session, all the London fines for different periods. The Giltspur-street Prison is for people committed for assaults, misdemeanors, prisoners for further examination, vagrants and night charges.

How long are the vagrants kept in your custody?—Until disposed of by the magistrates, by being sent to Bridewell, or to their parishes.

Have you had at any one time foreigners remain with you?—We had a great many at one time; we had upwards of a hundred sailors, until they were sent on board a ship.

In what year was that?—In the months of November and December 1816.

Do you know what time they remained there?—Some of them remained about a month before the ship was prepared.

Were they maintained at the expense of the Corporation?—They were.

Solely?—Solely.

Were they clothed at all?—Not by the Corporation; they were clothed by Government, when they got on board the ship.

You gave them no clothing the time they were there?—None.

Was your prison so crowded at that time that it endangered the health of the other prisoners?—It was; which I represented to the then Lord Mayor, and he sent me to the Navy Office, Somerset House, and they were removed.

Are there any other description of vagrants kept in that prison for any certain time?—Frequently; where the settlement cannot be found, they are kept for a length of time till we can get them disposed of in some way; for instance, we have a woman now who was born in the West Indies, and has been some months in St. Thomas's Hospital and discharged as incurable. Her name is Margaret Pringle, she was sent to the hospital by the Lord Mayor, for general debility of constitution, and her sight was very bad.

Does it frequently happen that foreigners that are sent to the hospital, by the Lord Mayor or other magistrate, on their being discharged, are sent back to you again?—Frequently.

They being considered part of the City, the hospital expects they shall take them back again?—They do.

Does it happen that women who are taken up as prostitutes, remain with you any given time?—They do, till disposed of by the Committee of the Guardian Society, or the Committee of the Refuge for the Destitute.

They are not always passed to their parishes by the magistrates?—Not always; they are disposed of in other ways, sometimes sent to the Refuge for the Destitute, or the Guardian Society.

Do they remain in your possession for a considerable time?—Frequently until they can be received into those institutions.

Mr. John Teague.

Are there any ladies who visit the prison, who select those fit to be sent to the Guardian Society?—We have a committee of the Guardian Society, who meet every Monday morning for that purpose; they examine all the females, and they select such as are proper objects of that society.

Do you supply in the morning, the persons that are brought in over night (the night charges,) with the same provisions as are allotted to the prisoners?—With bread only in the morning; but if they are remanded, they partake of the same provisions as the other prisoners.

When the persons for assaults, vagrants, foreigners, prostitutes, and disorderly persons, are brought in, do you separate them?—We separate the vagrants from the rest; assaults and disorderlys are put together, the males separate from the females; that distinction of course is provided for.

When persons are committed on night charges, do you examine them as to their state of cleanliness?—No, unless if a person is ill the surgeon is immediately sent for; we frequently send for him in the middle of the night, to persons who come in intoxicated, or who have received wounds.

Where are they all placed, in a room with beds, or a common sitting-room with a fire?—Those who come in in the middle of the night, are placed in the charge room, we allow them rugs only; there are large broad seats round the room, so that they may sit or lie, which they like.

Are the boys and men mixed together?—At first they are; sometimes they are brought in in the middle of the night, we cannot of course separate them then, but the next morning they are selected from the rest.

Have you a good many small rooms in the prison, so that in case it might be necessary a boy should be put separate, at the request of any person, prosecutor or other, you could accommodate that person by complying with that request?—We do it frequently.

How are persons who are confined there for a longer space of time, or remanded for re-examination, accommodated?—Sometimes accommodated in small rooms; frequently, when remanded for further examination, they are desired by the magistrates to be kept separate, and then they are put in those small rooms in the front by themselves, separate from the other prisoners.

Describe the nature of the rooms or cells in which the other persons are confined? —The cells are eight feet by seven.

How many persons are confined in each?—Generally two; sometimes it may happen that three may be put in, but generally two, according to the number we have in the prison; they are there only for one night, because we are relieved every day by the Lord Mayor and sitting Aldermen; we make a return every morning.

Is there any day-room attached to these cells?—There is.

What is the size of it?—The day-room for the women is twenty-one feet by four; it is between the two rows of cells; it is a mere passage.

Is there a window to it?—No, but there are apertures which communicate with the cells, for the warmth to communicate to the cells.

How many persons are there confined in that day-room?—That depends on circumstances, generally not more than seven or eight; there may be more, but then only perhaps for a night, or a day; they are taken away by the magistrates the next day, and sent to other prisons, or discharged.

Where is the fire place?—At the end of the room.

How many persons can sit round that fire to warm themselves?—Very few, on account of the narrowness of the place, not more than three or four.

Have they to prepare their food there?—No, it is cooked for them in the kitchen.

If the door is shut, what light is there?—The only light is from the apertures of the cells, and from over the door.

It is very dark?—It is generally.

Supposing there be ten or twelve persons, those nearest the door must be very cold?—They must, but they are seldom kept long there.

Those cells and the day-room are on the ground floor?—They are.

Are they damp?—I should apprehend not, from the warmth communicated by the fire, that prevents any dampness; there is a general warmth from the fire.

Have any complaints been made to you, of the cells being damp?—Very seldom.

Do the prisoners in general complain of their being cold?—They sometimes complain of being cold in the winter.

During the night?—They cannot well complain of cold then, for if they shut up their

Mr. John Teague.

their shutters, they exclude the air; if two or three persons are there their natural warmth prevents them from feeling cold.

How many bedsteads are there in each of those cells?—One in each cell.

Of what size?—About seven feet long, the length of the cell, and about four feet wide.

Is it possible for three persons to sleep in it?—Yes, they can; we have a sort of tick filled with straw, and about four rugs to each cell.

Do you give four rugs to each?—We allow three or four, and more if required.

Are the bedsteads iron?—No; wood.

Is the floor of those cells of wood or stone?—Stone.

In wet weather does not the damp rise so as to make those stones damp?—It does.

Do the prisoners complain of colds and rheumatism?—Sometimes they do; of course people who have been accustomed to boarded floors, complain on coming into a prison, where there are stones; they feel the difference.

When persons first come in, are they generally afflicted with colds or rheumatism?—There are certainly many cases of colds and rheumatism.

Do you think those complaints arise from the dampness of the cells?—From my own observation, I do not recollect that I have heard that complaint; when a person is ill, the surgeon examines him, and he is better able to answer that question.

What is the longest time that any person is in this place?—From one Session to another some are; and some only one night.

They may be nearly six weeks there?—Yes.

How many hours are they locked up in those cells?—From eight in the evening till seven the next morning.

Do you ever air their beds or dry their rugs?—Frequently.

How do you do that?—On a fine day we make them expose them to the sun and wind.

Do you change the straw in the beds?—Frequently.

How often?—As often as may be required; when the straw becomes chaffy then it is changed.

What size is the yard in which the cells are placed?—The yard is 48 feet by 6, and 17 by 19.

How many cells are there in that yard?—Six cells in the women's yard.

The buildings are only the height of one story?—No.

Is the whole of the prison fire proof?—It is; the whole of it.

In case a prisoner is brought in, in a state of nakedness, at night, have you any means of clothing him?—We have a stock of clothes in the prison for cases of that sort, from a fund by the City of London.

Tell the Committee what class of prisoners are committed to the House of Correction?—Prisoners who are sentenced for different periods for hard labour, having been tried for small offences, felonies and misdemeanors.

What is the longest time you have had any prisoner committed there?—From one month to two years.

How do you employ them?—In picking oakum; in working at the mill, grinding wheat; in whitewashing the prison occasionally; and when we have a carpenter, he is employed at his trade, and some are employed in painting the prison.

Any stone masons?—Sometimes, but very seldom; I have only had one so employed.

The Committee saw a man working as a watchmaker; was he sentenced to hard labour?—He was.

Will you give the reasons why he was indulged with that privilege?—At the solicitation of his friends, I allow him to work at his business.

Had you any reason for that; was it for his good conduct?—I had no other view but that, not with regard to any pecuniary compensation to myself, I have nothing of that sort; but at the solicitation of his friends I allow him to work at his business; of course, I could not allow him to work among the prisoners with watchmaker's tools. I allow him to work occasionally, and he pays one of the prisoners who is not sentenced to hard labour, to work for him at the mill.

Is he a particularly well-behaved man?—He is a very quiet man.

He enjoys the whole profit he makes of course, except what he pays the man for working for him?—Yes.

Is

Mr. John Teague.

Is there any proportion of the labour given to the prisoners who work at the mill?—By order of the Committee of Aldermen, I pay them two-pence for every bushel of meal they grind.

What quantity does each man grind in a day?—They grind from seven to eight bushels a day, the whole sixteen men.

The allowance to each man then is about a penny a day?—Yes.

How many hours are they employed?—At the mill from nine to twelve, and from one to four.

Do the City allow you any portion of the labour at all?—None whatever.

Has any person in the prison any portion?—No.

The whole of the profits of the oakum and grinding of the corn goes to the Corporation?—Yes.

Tell the Committee how much they gain per day in picking oakum?—I cannot exactly say, but I should think it very trifling; they used to pick about five pounds of rope into oakum each man per day.

What do you get for that?—Five shillings a hundred weight; sometimes four, and sometimes five.

Do you say their earnings are not more than two-pence a day?—About two-pence halfpenny.

How is that money paid to them?—That money is not paid to them; I pay them weekly, according to the number of bushels of meal they grind.

Those who pick oakum have no part of the profit?—No; except when they are discharged, I give them at the rate of three shillings a-piece for six months, and eighteen-pence those who have been three months.

You spoke of carpenters, what do you pay them?—Three shillings a week.

You have had one carpenter at work for you for six months; was his conduct very orderly during the time?—It was.

Did he work very hard; did he do as much work under the inspector as a carpenter is expected to do in the ordinary course of business?—I should think he did.

Have you heard on his being discharged in what way he got his subsistence?—He is now fully employed.

For what crime was he committed?—Bigamy.

Each of those mechanics who have been employed have done their work extremely well, and gone out good characters?—They have.

How long is an individual employed at the mill in one spell?—About twenty minutes a spell.

How long is he idle before it comes to his turn to work again?—Twenty minutes; there are two sets of men, of eight each.

You have only sixteen prisoners employed at the mill altogether?—No.

How many prisoners have you in the house of correction?—Forty males, and eleven females.

How are the remainder employed of the forty?—Three in white-washing, constantly employed; in picking of oakum several, I do not know how many; two employed in the bakehouse.

How many mechanics?—Two mechanics; we have no shoemakers at present; there are two men employed in dressing the meal and attending the mill.

You have fifteen picking oakum then?—No; there are some in the sick ward, and some infirm, who are incapable of doing any duty.

How are they selected for employment in the mill?—We have no particular mode in selecting them, we take the strongest generally.

What employment have the prisoners between the hours they are working at the mill and going to bed?—They are not employed from four o'clock to eight; they are doing just what they please; some of them read.

Does that arise from the fatiguing nature of the work?—In some measure it does.

Have you any classification of the prisoners in the house of correction?—None, except male from female.

Can you state what the watchmaker pays the man who works for him at the mill?—I really do not know; I should suppose not more than a shilling a week, but I never heard, I should suppose not more.

How long has the mill been erected?—This mill about three months; we have had some other mills before this, which did not answer the purpose, and they were taken down.

Mr. *John Teague.*

What was the reason they did not answer?—It was a speculation of the man who put them up, and they did not answer.

How were the convicts employed before those mills were put up?—In picking oakum, in white-washing and carpentering, occasionally shoemaking and tailors work, if we could find work for them; we have had a good many shoes made in the prison for the prisoners.

Did those persons work only six hours a day?—Generally about that time, sometimes more; but the mill work we thought too fatiguing to employ them more than that.

In your opinion, would it be advantageous, with a view to the reformation of these persons, that they should be employed a greater number of hours in the day?—Certainly, it would be better.

Have you ever suggested that to the Court of Aldermen?—I have not.

What sort of employment should you recommend?—Shoemaking and tailoring, and labour of that description; slop making.

Do you consider a man equal to work at the mill beyond the six hours?—The men have frequently asked me for more food, if they worked more than that time.

What instruction have you for the prisoners?—None beyond the Sunday; they all attend divine service on the Sunday.

Have you a schoolmaster?—We have not.

Are your boys separate from the men?—They are.

What books have you for them to read?—Bibles, prayer books and homilies, in all the wards, supplied by the Corporation.

Are they allowed to have such books as they please?—They are allowed to have other books; but if they are obscene, or of an improper nature, we should not permit them.

In fact, do you examine any books they may have in their possession, if you know they have them?—If we knew they were improper, they would not be allowed to go into the prison.

But amusing books they are allowed to have?—Yes.

Is there much gambling or card playing?—Very little.

If you saw persons card-playing, should you think yourself authorized to take the cards away?—I should.

Do you see them frequently gambling?—I do not; they amuse themselves generally in walking about the yard, when the weather will premit; they in general demean themselves very quietly and orderly.

When the Committee were in the Compter the other day, was not there a man there who had been committed for an unnatural crime, and a boy of seventeen years of age, in the same cell?—Not in the same cell. It is our practice with all men of that description, to confine them in separate cells at night; in the daytime of course they must mix with some class of prisoners or other.

Was this boy, who was only committed for a slight offence, in the same ward with those men committed for house-breaking?—They are not committed for house-breaking; they are only committed for an assault.

Have you no other place you could put this boy in?—Only with the House of Correction men.

What was his sentence?—Six months imprisonment.

Not to hard labour?—Yes; but Mr. Box had him in the infirmary.

What was he in the infirmary for?—He had been ill, and Mr. Box did not wish him to be put to hard labour till his strength was established.

Of what sort of habits was the boy?—Decent in appearance; I do not know exactly, but I think he was convicted of stealing some cloth to a very great amount.

Did he appear inoffensive in his manners?—Yes, as far as I saw any thing of him.

Is there a great deal of swearing and blackguarding going on in the gaol?—There is not.

Have you any punishment in case they swear and talk obscenely?—I should confine them in a separate cell for a certain number of hours.

Do you ever put that in practice?—I do.

What becomes of the produce of the labour of the prisoners employed as mechanics, as tailors or shoemakers?—They are employed in making and mending clothes which belong to the prisoners, men and women too; the women make all their own clothes.

Would it not be better to retain the earnings of the prisoners till they are discharged, and give it them then?—I think it would be better.

How do you give it now?—I pay them weekly.

Mr. *John Teague.*

Do you know how that sum is disposed of by the prisoners?—I do not; those who work at the mill do not receive above six or seven-pence a week.

Do they spend it in beer?—There is very little beer goes into the prison, and no spirits; I seldom have a complaint of spirits being brought into the prison.

Do you undertake to say no spirits are brought in?—I do not believe there are; I cannot of course say positively there is not; but I do not believe, from my own observation, that there are any; every care and precaution is taken to prevent it.

Do you permit communication between the House of Correction prisoners and their friends out of doors?—They are not permitted to go into the interior of the prison on any account; no relations of any sort, not on the House of Correction side; the Giltspur-street are, because many of them are committed for assaults only, and are not tried.

Is there a visiting-room, in which they see their friends?—There is a bar, their friends are permitted no farther than that; they can see them, and they can talk with them; but there is no other communication can take place.

Are provisions often sent in by their friends?—Sometimes.

Do those provisions pass through the hands of the turnkeys, or delivered by the friends themselves to the prisoners?—Delivered by the friends.

Do you or the turnkey examine every thing that comes in?—Yes; because in a bason with meat spirituous liquors might be brought in.

Then there is no restriction as to what their friends may send them in the shape of provision?—No.

As to beer there is a restriction?—Yes.

What quantity would you allow them to have?—In the House of Correction the quantity of beer is very little; it may not exceed a gallon a day among the whole, except on the Sunday, and then there may be two or three gallons.

If the prisoners had money to purchase beer, would they be permitted to have what quantity they might think fit?—They would not.

What quantity would you think yourself justified in allowing each man to have?—One pint per day.

What is the allowance of provisions for each prisoner?—I have a Dietary, which, with the permission of the Committee, I will deliver in.

[*It was read as follows:*]

"Dietary.—London House of Correction.

Breakfast:—A quart of gruel, made with oatmeal, and seasoned with salt, each prisoner.

Dinner:—Half a pound of beef, without bone, which is reduced with boiling to six ounces each prisoner, every other day; and the intermediate days, one quart of broth each, made with the water used the preceding day for boiling the meat, and thickened with Scotch barley, celery, leeks, turnips, parsley, pepper and salt.

16 ounces of household bread each prisoner daily."

What quantity of coals are they allowed?—Two bushels a week to the small fire-places, and three to the large ones.

Do you think the provisions allowed to each prisoner sufficient?—I should think it was sufficient; those who work at the mill frequently ask me for more; on account of the labour they think they should have more; but I think it sufficient for the rest of the prisoners; if a pound and a half, instead of a pound, of bread, were allowed to those who work at the mill, I think it would be an encouragement.

Are any potatoes allowed?—None but what they purchase themselves.

Can you tell what it costs the Corporation per week for each prisoner?—I should think about half a crown each prisoner per week.

Do you know what a pound of bread a day costs now?—About 2½ *d.*

You do not include coals in that answer?—No.

You say the utmost any man earns is 2½ *d.* a day, picking oakum?—Yes.

What do you suppose the profit per day is at the mill?—I am unable to answer that.

What do they sell the bran for?—About twelve shillings a quarter of sixteen strikes.

Then supposing the value of grinding a bushel of corn to be sixpence, the utmost they would gain would be three-pence a day?—Yes.

How long is it you have begun baking for your own gaol as well as Newgate?—We began baking for our own gaol in August last, and for Newgate the 12th of last January.

The bread you now bake for your goal and Newgate, is of an inferior quality to what you used to buy from the bakers?—It is.

Have

Mr. *John Teague.*

Have you had any complaints?—About twice, which was owing to the quality of the yeast being bad.

Who purchases your wheat?—It is a contract made by the Court of Aldermen, by public advertisement.

What is the weight per bushel of the wheat purchased by that contract?—Fifty-eight pounds per bushel.

Do you weigh it when it comes in?—Yes; we had some previous to the contract, that weighed more than fifty-eight pounds per bushel.

Do you grind sufficient for Newgate and your own prison?—We do not; we have whole meal from Tottenham mills, to make up the deficiency.

To your knowledge has there been any inferior meal, that has been sour or in any respect imperfect, brought into the prison?—Certainly not.

Have you examined it yourself, with great attention?—There has been no complaint at all of the meal brought into the prison; I have seen it myself.

Have you examined it minutely yourself?—I have.

Have you, in company with the baker, attended to it, and heard his opinion?—I have.

Has he ever complained?—No, not of the meal brought from Tottenham, except one sack of meal, which by being placed near the oven, got heated, which of course, rather injured it; it was used very sparingly, with other meal, by very small portions at a time, till all was used.

How long ago was that?—About three weeks or a month.

Do you think that the quality which has been complained of, at the time you speak of, arose from the bad quality of the meal at the time you purchased it?—No; it was from the circumstance, as the baker acknowledged, of being placed too near the oven.

The Committee have heard some few complaints of the bread; has that arisen from the bad quality of the meal purchased or ground?—I am not able to answer that question; the only reason that I could give for its being bad, was the quality of the yeast; that was, as the baker informed me; I never had any complaint of the meal.

Can you say whether you think the quality of the bread was inferior in consequence of that sack of meal being sour?—I do not think it was.

Has the baker in the prison been many years a baker on his own account?—He has, in the ward of Cripplegate.

He is a Scotchman?—Yes, of the name of Henderson.

Of considerable experience?—Yes.

Having been many years in the business?—Yes.

He is appointed by the Court of Aldermen?—Yes.

At what salary?—A guinea and a half a week.

When you first began you used to bake the bread in tins?—Yes.

How came that to be changed?—It was suggested, I do not know from what quarter, that it might be better to bake it on the oven bottom, as other bread was baked; we tried it, and it succeeded, the bread is liked much better.

You cannot state to the Committee who advised the man to change his system?—I cannot.

Was it by any advice of the magistrates?—I do not know.

Was there any order from the magistrates to you, to alter the system?—Not that I recollect.

What alterations have been made have been suggested to the man himself?—Yes, we had one of the turnkeys from Newgate who is a baker, to assist for a day or two to try the experiment.

Is there any other person employed to assist the baker?—Two boys who are prisoners.

What sized loaves do you bake?—Two pound loaves.

Did you know of this flour being heated, previous to its being made into bread?—Yes.

How came you to let it be made into bread?—The baker said by using a small portion of it at a time it would not injure the rest of the bread.

Was there any complaint of the bread made from it?—No.

What became of the remainder, or was it all made into bread?—I believe it was.

Was there any complaint made of it?—I never heard of any.

What proportion of the flour have you from the mill?—We use all the flour made at the mill in the prison, and the difference is supplied from the mills at Tottenham.

Do you know the proportion?—No.

Mr. John Teague.

You bake about twelve sacks a week?—From ten to twelve.

How much flour can you make yourself in six days?—We have hitherto not ground more than seven bushels a day, forty-two bushels a week.

Is there an overseer?—There is a task-master to the House of Correction.

What salary does he receive?—Thirty shillings a week.

What does he do?—He attends the grinding, the picking of oakum, and other matters that relate to the employment of the prisoners.

Does he understand milling?—No; he was there before we commenced grinding.

He attends to the whole of the labour?—Yes.

You have stated, that clothing is allowed by the Corporation to the prisoners?—There is.

What bedding is generally allowed?—About a hundred rugs in the course of the year.

How many to each person?—According to the state of the weather, and the time of the year; in the winter season, we allow three rugs to a bed; in the summer, perhaps two; generally three rugs, take the whole year round; they have a straw bed each, and some we have mats for, the same as in Newgate.

If they wanted more bedding, are you at liberty to give them more?—I am.

Do the prisoners take the prison clothing out with them when they leave the prison?—If a man is very destitute of clothing, I could not suffer him to go out naked; but that is very seldom the case.

Do you put his own clothes away, while he is wearing the prison clothing?—I allow them to send their clothes home, and get them repaired, and they are brought again when their time is out; some I put away, if they require it; some of them chuse to wear their own clothes, in preference to the prison dress, which is allowed.

Describe how the persons who are sentenced to hard labour are lodged?—In the men's House of Correction side.

How many rooms are there?—Two wards, fitted up with sixteen beds in each, holding thirty-two prisoners; they have each a separate bed.

Are ever more than one person in each bed?—No, not on the House of Correction side.

Is there any day room?—There is a day room.

What is the size of the wards and the day room?—Each bed room is 33 feet by 17; and the day room the same; the front yard attached to that part of the building is 80 feet by 20.

Where are those persons confined for misdemeanors, not sentenced to hard labour?—They are all put together; we have not above two or three cases of that sort; there are some misdemeanors for passing bad money, which are not sentenced to hard labour, there is not above two or three; there is a clause in the Act of Parliament which gives us a power to put them to hard labour, though they are not sentenced to it by their commitment.

You stated, there were about forty in the House of Correction?—Yes.

And you have thirty-two beds?—Yes.

Then how do you manage that each man shall have a bed?—Some are in the infirmary, and the rest are in the other parts of the prison; the boys are included in that number who sleep by themselves.

If it were necessary, those wards are capable of holding a great many more than they do?—They are, but we put the remainder in other parts of the prison.

State what parts?—In the slips; there are six bed-rooms which we call slips; they sleep there.

Are there any other parts of the prison where persons are confined after trial?—The first yard, what we call the master's side yard; we have three persons there who were tried with two others for an assault, and sentenced to two years confinement, but not to hard labour; they do not belong to the House of Correction, they are Giltspur-street prisoners.

What are their names?—Thatcher, Phillips, Main, Baxter and Jones.

Were they charged with a violent assault, connected with a robbery committed in a public house?—They were.

Are there any untried prisoners in the same yard?—There are.

How long have they remained there?—Till they can find bail, or from one sessions to another.

What is the nature of the offences with which those persons are charged?—Persons sent for further examination, or committed for an assault; we have no persons committed for felony.

There are some there charged with felony?—They are remanded for further examination; night charges, but not committed for felony.

Mr. John Teague.

How came these men to be there amongst untried prisoners?—We had no other place to put them; I could not put them into the House of Correction, because they were not ordered there.

Have you no small ward in which you could put them?—No.

How many yards have you on that side?—The first yard in the entrance is the master's side, and the committed yard; we have only two yards; we have a vagrant yard, but we could not put them there.

What is the master's side yard; who are there?—The better sort of prisoners, that we do not put into what we call the committed yard.

Do you think there is considerable danger in those notorious characters being mixed with untried persons, of corrupting them?—Unquestionably.

What is the description of cells in that yard?—The same as the other; their day-rooms are 23 feet by 18, each of them.

Describe the middle yard; what description of persons are confined there?—Persons committed for assaults, and some who are remanded for further examination; that is what is called the committed side.

When the Committee visited the prison, was there not a person there who had been re-committed for want of bail?—There was.

Why was he placed in the committed yard, instead of being on the master's side?—That is the yard for committed persons, and that is the reason he was there; that is his proper yard; only those of a decent appearance are put on the first master's side yard; there wants more room in that respect to make the classification better than it is; it is owing to our want of room we cannot make the classification so complete as we wish.

Describe the number of cells and their dimensions in the committed yard?—There are five cells, 8 feet by 7.

What is the size of the day-room?—Thirty-one feet by four; it is on the same plan as the other.

How many persons are ever confined at one time in that yard?—That depends on circumstances; night charges and others, perhaps fifteen or sixteen, but then it is only for one night; they are brought in the night for the purpose of going before the magistrates the next morning.

What time are they sent the next morning?—By eleven o'clock.

What time are they locked up in the middle yard?—Eight o'clock at night.

Is that the same hour at which they are locked up in other parts of the prison?—We lock up the House of Correction at eight o'clock, and the master's side yard is left till nine.

Having two yards, why do you mix them at all; why not keep those convicted and the night charges separate?—That yard would not accommodate them sufficiently; when people are decent and respectable, if they were committed, and put with those who are dirty, they would complain, and therefore there is a separation.

You put them among those people, because they are more decent?—Yes.

In your opinion, is the accommodation you have on the master's side (the committed side) sufficient for the number of prisoners sent in there?—Not enough to answer the purposes of classification.

What kind of classification do you mean?—To class them according to their offences; the tried and the untried, the boys and the men.

Might not a great deal of additional accommodation be obtained, by raising those cells and day-rooms another story, and altering their form?—I think it might; that would be for the better judgment of a surveyor.

What effect would that have upon the airing of the yard?—If the building be carried up, of course it would prevent the current of air.

Would it not require the boundary wall to be made higher in consequence of that?—If the building was raised equal to the height of the boundary wall, then there would be no necessity to raise the boundary wall.

How many women on the House of Correction side have you?—Eleven.

How are they employed?—In washing for the whole prison, and in mending and repairing the clothes, and making their own clothes; they are employed by Mrs. Fry and the ladies, who attend them every day, in different kinds of needlework.

Do you know what they receive?—I do not.

Are they paid anything by you for washing, or otherwise?—They are not.

Is their allowance the same as the men?—Yes, the same.

Before Mrs Fry supplied you with work, had they work given to them?—Only in making their own dresses.

Mr. *John Teague.*

Without that work, furnished by Mrs. Fry, their time would not be fully occupied?—No.

Do they assist in cooking?—One of them.

Had they many idle hours, previous to the employment by Mrs. Fry?—No, not many; they were employed in washing and ironing, and making their own clothes, and things of that sort.

Do they wash for the male prisoners?—They wash for the whole prison.

Are they fully employed now?—They are.

How long have they been fully employed?—They have always been employed ever since the House of Correction has been established.

How long have they been fully employed?—I do not recollect how long the ladies have been in the habit of visiting us, but they have always been employed; we have never been without employment.

Do they receive any allowance for making their clothes?—No, Mrs. Fry pays them for what they do for her.

Do you give any sum of money to the female prisoners, when they are discharged from the House of Correction?—Just the same as the men.

Is there any classification of the female convicts in the House of Correction?—There are three rooms, and we class them according to circumstances; those who appear a little better than the others, we endeavour to keep them away from the rest.

But they are all sentenced to labour?—Yes.

What is the greatest number that are confined in any one ward?—About six or seven in the large wards, and three in the small wards.

Has each prisoner a bed to herself?—Yes; each a separate bed.

Is there any religious or moral instruction afforded to the women?—By the ladies who visit them there is.

How is that done?—One of the ladies belonging to the society under the direction of Mrs. Fry, reads to them a portion of Scripture, the first thing before they commence their work, each day.

How are the duties performed in the chapel?—Service is performed once every Sunday, by the Reverend Manley Wood.

Do all the inhabitants attend?—Yes, except prevented by illness; it is a matter of my direction, and it is obeyed; I attend myself, and they behave extremely orderly during divine service.

Does Mr. Wood visit the prison on any other occasions?—Only once a week.

Does he visit all the wards?—Not all the wards; he looks in once a week; he goes into the interior of the prison.

Does he attend when he is sent for to administer spiritual comfort to a prisoner?—He does.

Is he expected to attend on any other days, except Sunday?—He is not.

What is the total number of prisoners in your custody now?—This morning, it was a hundred and seventeen.

Does that comprise the whole now sent in for re-examination, and others?—Yes, the whole, night charges and all; this morning; in the House of Correction, there were forty males and eleven females; in Giltspur-street Compter, there were fifteen males and five females; committed, remanded for further examination, eleven males and three females; night charges, twelve males and five females; vagrants, five males and ten females; total, 117.

Do you examine the prisoners that are brought in on the House of Correction side, as to the state of their health?—They are examined.

By whom?—By me, and they are washed and clothed and sent into the interior; Mr. Box sees them previous to their coming to me.

Does the itch frequently exist in your prison?—Frequently among the vagrants; a great deal of disease is brought in by them, but they are kept by themselves; they are only kept one night together, or till we can get them into the hospital.

Do you cleanse them?—Yes, and clothe them, at a very great expense.

What do you do with their clothes?—Burn them generally, when they are in a very filthy state.

Mr. *William Hutcheson Box*, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. H. Box.*

YOU are surgeon to Giltspur-street Compter and the House of Correction, as well as to Newgate?—I am.

How long have you been surgeon of this establishment?—Two years last Christmas.

Have you separate infirmaries for the men and women?—Yes.

What

Mr W. H. Box.

What are the average numbers of your sick?—The average number of sick in the infirmary I should calculate at about eight per day, in the two infirmaries, those requiring confinement.

Do you allow the sick persons the same allowance as at Newgate?—The number has not been sufficient to come to a regular establishment of that kind, but they are allowed any thing they want; I order any thing that is necessary, without restriction; broth, wine, porter, and every necessary.

Are you aware of a large number of foreigners, at any time since you have been surgeon, being in the prison?—An immense number.

Can you tell any thing like the number?—We had, about last January twelvemonth, as many as 180 at one time, and a great many of them ill, brought in in a deplorable state of health.

Did they all have your attention, the same as the other prisoners?—Yes, precisely so.

Have you a nurse now?—Yes, appointed by the Court of Aldermen.

At a salary?—Yes.

Has she occasionally a sick female prisoner in her room?—Not exactly a prisoner; there have been persons, young women, who have been taken before the magistrate, and whose characters have been better than others, I have been desired to separate them from the rest of the prisoners, and I have generally then put them under the care of the nurse, and then they have been in her room.

Do you consider the accommodation in the prison sufficient for the sick?—I think, if the opposite ward to the present infirmary was appropriated to the infirmary, instead of the ward we have, it would be attended with greater convenience.

You are aware, that the meat which is given at the other prison, in a raw state, is here boiled, and soup made?—I have attended to that.

With the other provisions that they are at present supplied with, is that sufficient, in your opinion?—I think it perfectly sufficient; the prisoners are, in general, in very good health.

Do you think it sufficient for the men employed at the mill?—They are allowed a trifle, according to the quantity they grind, which they may buy porter with.

What is that allowance?—I think it is two-pence a day.

Do you consider the prison a healthy prison?—I do; very healthy.

Have you ever heard prisoners complain of the damp?—Only in those cells; they are very damp in the winter.

Do they complain much of rheumatism and cold caught in those cells?—No; they are not long there; it is only refractory persons that are kept there long.

A person might remain there from one session to the next?—No; not in these cells; they are more appropriated to vagrants.

The Committee saw three sailors there?—No; that was in the iron yard.

The Committee have just heard that the day-room is 31 feet by 4; do you consider that sufficiently large and airy?—I think the arrangement of that part of the prison bad; the extreme narrowness of the room prevents more than three or four persons enjoying the benefit of the fire in the winter time.

The Committee wish to know, if a vagrant in a weakly state of health were committed in the winter time to these cells, whether you think unhealthy consequences would ensue?—Yes, I think they would; but I should not suffer a vagrant in a weak state of health to be there; he would be immediately removed to the infirmary.

Do you know whether they complain much of those cells in the night?—They have complained of the cold sometimes, certainly.

Does not the mode in which these cells and day-rooms are constructed, obstruct the free circulation of the air?—I consider they do.

Do you consider that by building a day-room over the cells, that it would obstruct the air in the airing yard?—Of course the higher those cells were built, the less light and circulation there would be in the passages round.

Can you point out any other part where there might be a day-room?—I think there is no room for a day-room under the present regulations of this yard.

Have you at any time suggested any alteration in the construction?—I never did suggest it to the magistrates.

Have you any thing you could suggest to the Committee at this moment as an improvement?—I consider that if these cells had been built back against the wall, and two stories high, with a day-room underneath, you would then have a large airy yard in the front, and the cells might be kept aired from the fire in the day-room.

You

Mr. W. H. Box.

You have said, that the infirmary should be changed; where would you place it?—No; I only said, if we could have the opposite ward to the ward we now have for the infirmary, it would be better than having it on the other side; it appears to me it was originally intended for an infirmary.

When the Committee were in the Compter the other day, there was a boy there who was sentenced to six months imprisonment, whom you had removed into the infirmary; what was the matter with him?—It was a boy of the name of Coates; he had been removed from Newgate; he had the fever when he was in Newgate, but I removed him well, and in a proper state of health; his conduct having been particularly good at Newgate, I recommended him to Mr. Teague's care and notice.

Martis, 10° *die Martii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Thomas Fowell Buxton, Esquire, called in; and Examined.

T. F. Buxton, Esq.

HAVE you been in the habit of visiting Newgate?—I have been there occasionally.

Have you any thing particular you wish to state?—Nothing in particular.

You have gone there with Mr. Bedford, have you not?—Several times, but principally with Mr. Hoare.

In your visits to Newgate, in what state have you found the prisoners with regard to clothing?—I have seen several at different times in a very bad state of clothing.

Can you name any particular instances of persons in a state of nakedness?—I did not inquire particularly as to their names; but I recollect very well having seen several, boys for instance, who were in a very bad state of dress.

What were they deficient in?—Their clothing was very ragged altogether, especially their small-clothes.

Did you mention that circumstance when you observed them in that state to the keeper of the prison, or any person in authority?—I did not.

Do you know how long they had been there in that state?—I do not know that fact.

They might have come in a day or two before, for any thing you were informed to the contrary?—At one period I went in January, and there were so many in a bad state of clothing, that one can hardly suppose they all came in the preceding day.

Had the greater part of them shoes and stockings?—I think the greater part had shoes, but not stockings.

Did you see any without shirts?—I have particularly remarked that some of them had not shirts.

Did you see many without stockings?—Some without stockings; I do not think there were a great many without stockings.

You have said, that you found several very deficient in clothing; has it struck you that their clothing was so bare as to be injurious to their health?—I should have thought so, certainly.

Do you know whether they were tried or untried prisoners?—I do not.

Did you ask any of the prisoners themselves, whether they had applied for more clothing?—I did not; I did not direct my attention particularly to Newgate; I have only incidentally visited it; I am a member of the society for the improvement of prison discipline, and for the reformation of juvenile offenders; its members divide the labour of visiting the prisons of the Metropolis between them; Newgate has been very regularly visited by Mr. Bedford and Mr. Crawfurd; Mr. Hoare's attention and mine have been directed to the Borough Compter and some other prisons.

Have the goodness to inform the Committee of the general state of cleanliness of the prisoners, as far as your information goes?—I think both in their persons and in their rooms, they were as cleanly as it could be considered they could be.

Do you apply that to their linen?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with Newgate to speak to that.

Did you take any notice of the bread?—I did take particular notice of it.

What kind of bread was it?—At one period, which was in January, I think the bread was very bad, and in consequence of that I went to the Giltspur-street prison with Mrs. Fry and Mr. Hoare, and we examined the wheat, which was extremely bad.

T. F. Buxton, Esq.

What date was that?—February 2d.

Was the bread which you say was so bad, brown or white?—I do not mean to say that the bread was bad in itself; it was exceedingly coarse; a great many shades darker in colour than the bread they have now in Newgate.

Was it sour or ill-baked?—I do not think it was either.

Did you mention this to any person in authority in the gaol?—Mrs. Fry was with me, and I thought her the more proper channel.

In what respect was the wheat bad; are you yourself a judge?—I do not pretend to be a good judge; but I know the difference between very good and very bad wheat.

Was it grown in the year?—It was not; I am not a sufficient judge to tell what was the matter with it, but it was of a particularly bad colour and shrivelled, and I have no doubt in my own mind that it was bad wheat; I said to the miller, this is very bad wheat, and he said it was.

Did the prisoners complain much of the bread?—I did not speak to them on the subject.

When you said the bread was bad, was it merely from bad baking, or the brownness of it?—I speak of the brownness of it. I think it was very moderate, in consequence of its being extremely coarse.

When you were in Giltspur-street, did you inquire of the miller how he dressed it; through what cloth; or what was taken from it?—I did inquire of him, and he explained it to me, but I am incompetent to give the Committee the information; I went and saw it dressed.

There is only one dressing machine?—No.

And that has been there from the time the mill began to work till the present day?—That I am incompetent to speak to.

Did you inquire the weight of the wheat when you found it so very bad?—I did not.

You know that grain is judged of by its weight in general?—I think you may form some degree of judgment of grain by the eye.

Upon the whole, you say you are not a great judge of wheat?—I am not.

Have you, in your observations upon gaols, generally found the prisoners inclined to complain of the quality of their bread, and frequently without foundation?—I do not think they are inclined, as far as my experience goes, to complain of the quality of the bread; of the quantity I have heard invariable complaints.

Did you visit Newgate when the bread was received from the bakers, not ground in the prison?—I did visit it at that period.

Did you ever make any observation upon the quality?—Not that I recollect.

Did you ever hear any complaints of it?—I knew so little of Newgate at that period, that I cannot speak to that: there is one observation I think it would be fair to mention; when I stated to the miller that this was very bad, he admitted it was very bad, but said generally it was very good.

That the grist he was grinding then was bad, but that generally it was good?—Yes.

Mr. *John Thacker*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Thacker.

You are the principal turnkey at the White Cross-street Prison?—I am assistant to the keeper of the prison.

Since you have been there has the keeper been dismissed?—He has; this is the third keeper we have had since I have been there.

When you came there Edward Kirby was keeper?—Yes, and he died about two months after I went there; I went the 10th of last May. His son succeeded him, by the appointment of the Sheriffs.

Was he afterwards admitted, to your knowledge, by the Court of Aldermen?—I have always understood so.

What time was that?—About four months before his dismissal.

He has been lately dismissed from the office of keeper?—He has.

Do you understand why he has been dismissed?—For irregular conduct, absenting himself from his duty; I did not mean to say drunkenness.

Was it in any measure for occasional partiality to different prisoners?—No, for being out from home, and neglecting his duty for several days together.

Nothing with regard to the internal management of the prison?—No; though the prison must in some measure suffer when the keeper does not do his duty.

At present who is the person who has been nominated by the Sheriffs?—Mr. Thomas Douglas.

Mr. John Thacker.

Has he been admitted by the Court of Alderman?—I believe not.

Has he had any possession of the prison?—Yes, acting as keeper of the prison under the direction of the Sheriffs.

How long has he been so?—About a fortnight.

Do you know what salary the first Mr. Kirby received from the Corporation?—Only by hearsay; I understand he had 800*l.* a year.

And a house to live in?—Yes; a very good house.

Free of any expenses?—Yes, free of parochial rates, or any taxes of any description.

Did he, to your knowledge, take any fees of any kind whatever?—No; I know of no fees he took.

Do you know what the son of Mr. Kirby was to receive for salary?—500 *l.* a year I understand.

Was he to receive any fees?—I understood he was not to receive any.

Do you know whether any persons in the prison, from the time you have been there, have received any fees or gratuity of any kind whatever?—None, except for searching the books; attornies who come to search the books, I believe pay a shilling for having a copy of the warrant.

There is no fee received from the prisoners?—No, not a halfpenny of any description.

How many prisoners have you now?—Three hundred and forty-three.

Are they all Middlesex prisoners?—No; Middlesex men, 227; women, 12; total 239. Ludgate, men, 14; women, 1; total 15. The Poultry and Giltspur-street, men, London side, 86; women, 3; total 89

What allowance do they receive in provisions from the City of London?—Fourteen ounces of exceeding good white bread per diem, and two pounds of meat per week.

With or without bone?—Without a bit of bone.

Do they cook it themselves?—Yes, they do.

[*The Petition of the Debtors confined in the New Prison Whitecross-street, was read.*]

A person that goes in at nine in the morning, may remain there all day?—Yes, if he pleases.

What are the hours of admission?—From nine to eleven in the forenoon, and from two to four in the afternoon.

What time are visitors obliged to leave the prison?—In the winter time we get them out by five or six; five is the time, but we never get them out precisely to that.

What time in the summer?—Eight.

So then a person who goes in at nine in the morning, may remain there till six in the evening in the winter, and eight in the summer?—Yes.

The rules and regulations which govern these hours of admission, are signed by the magistrates and the two Chief Judges of England?—Yes, they are.

Are they stuck up in different parts of the gaol?—They are.

Have you got a copy of the rules and regulations for the prison?—I have.

[*It was delivered in and read, as follows:*]

Rules, Orders and Regulations, for the better government of the Prison, for persons confined under civil process, in the custody of the Sheriff of Middlesex, the two Compters and the Prison of Ludgate, respectively called, "The Debtors Prison for London and Middlesex," made by the Court of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London, on Tuesday the fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, by virtue and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the 52d year of the reign of His present Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled, "An Act for building a new Prison in the City of London, for removing thereto Prisoners confined under civil Process in the Gaol of Newgate, and the two Compters of the said City, and also the Prison of Ludgate, and for converting the Building now containing the said two Compters and Ludgate, into a Gaol for Criminals in the said two Compters, and into a House of Correction for the said City of London."

RULES, ORDERS and REGULATIONS, &c.

1.—That all former rules, orders and regulations, for the government of debtors confined in His Majesty's gaol of Newgate, the said two Compters and Ludgate, by order of any sessions of the peace, or by virtue of any Act or Acts of Parliament, or otherwise heretofore made, do cease and determine.

2.—That

Mr. John Thacker.

2.—That the several bed-rooms of the debtors prison for London and Middlesex, shall be opened during the summer, viz. from Lady-day to Michaelmas, every morning at six o'clock; and during the winter, viz. from Michaelmas to Lady-day, at half past seven o'clock.

3.—That every prisoner, unless prevented by sickness, shall leave his bed-room by nine o'clock in the morning, throughout the year, and the said rooms shall be finally cleared out and locked up by the keeper, or one of his assistants, by ten o'clock in the forenoon, from which time they shall not be opened for the use of any prisoner, until after the evening muster roll is called over, which shall take place as soon as all strangers and visitors have quitted the prison; but if any prisoner shall have been attacked by sudden illness, or be so far indisposed in health, as to render it in the opinion of the surgeon, dangerous or improper for such prisoner to be immediately removed from his bed-room, such prisoner shall be permitted to remain therein until he can be safely removed, under the direction of the surgeon, either to the sick or convalescent ward, as his case may require.

4.—That every prisoner shall be in his bed-room by ten o'clock at night, throughout the year, when all lights shall be extinguished, except in the infirmary.

5.—That every prisoner shall have free access to his day-room, from the time of opening the bed-rooms in the morning, until a quarter before ten o'clock at night.

6.—That the several bed-rooms shall be swept out every morning before the same are left at nine o'clock, and washed clean twice in every week during the summer, and once in every week during the winter, by the prisoners of each respective bed-room, to be appointed for that purpose by the keeper, alternately or by rotation.

7.—That the several day-rooms shall be respectively washed and cleansed by the prisoners, to be appointed by the keeper, in like manner alternately or by rotation, on every Wednesday and Saturday during the summer, and on every Saturday during the winter.

8.—That the several yards shall be washed and cleansed by the prisoners in rotation, twice in every week.

9.—That the prisoners in rotation shall pump up daily such water as shall be necessary for the use of their respective room in the prison, and carry the same where the keeper shall direct for that purpose.

10.—That any prisoner, whose duty it shall be either alternately or in rotation to sweep out, clean and wash any of the rooms or yards of the prison, or to pump up water, may be at liberty for reasonable cause to find a sufficient substitute to perform the same, such substitute to be first approved of by the keeper.

11.—That no prisoner shall carry or lay any dust, dirt or rubbish, in any other part of the prison than in the common bins.

12.—That the scavenger or scavengers, who may be appointed by the aldermen, shall daily, after the bed-rooms are swept out by the prisoners, sweep clean all the stairs and landing places in the prison, and the several yards and passages of the same, under the direction of the keeper, and see that the water closets are clean.

13.—That no prisoner shall in anywise interrupt a scavenger or scavengers in the execution of their duty, nor any of his fellow prisoners, in sweeping out and cleaning the several rooms.

14.—That no animals which create filth or dirt shall be permitted amongst the prisoners, such as birds, fowls, dogs, cats, or rabbits; nor shall the keeper have any animals in any part of the prison, except cats to prevent vermin, or dogs as a safeguard.

15.—That every prisoner shall wash him or herself before the hour of ten in the morning.

16.—That no prisoners shall at any time drink or smoke tobacco in any of the bed-rooms, nor go into the same from the time of their being cleared out in the morning, until they retire to bed at night.

17.—That no prisoner shall wantonly disturb his or her fellow prisoner or prisoners after they shall have retired to rest.

18.—That the prisoners may amuse themselves, by way of exercise, at any games which shall from time to time be approved of by the sheriffs or keeper, but not otherwise; and that no games for money, or for any stake whatever, shall be permitted.

19.—That no clubs or associations for the purpose of tippling or otherwise, shall be allowed within the prison.

20.—That tea, coffee, milk, or bread, or any other article of victuals really intended for the breakfast of the prisoners, may be brought into the prison between the

the hours of nine and ten in the morning; and all other victuals, and their beer and wine, shall be brought between the hours of eleven in the forenoon and four in the afternoon in the winter months, and between the hours of eleven in the forenoon and six in the afternoon in the summer months, and at no other time on any account whatever; and all persons bringing the same shall depart from the prison immediately after the delivery thereof, except during the time that visitors are allowed to be admitted.

21.—That the keeper shall permit and suffer every prisoner at his free will and pleasure, to send for and have brought to him at seasonable times in the daytime, any beer, ale, victuals or other necessary food, from what place he shall think fit or can have the same; but no prisoner shall be allowed to have to himself more than two quarts of table beer, or one quart of strong beer, or one pint of wine in lieu thereof, in any one day; and the keeper shall see that this regulation is strictly adhered to according to its intent, and without evasion or collusion.

22.—That no provisions (except milk and bread,) nor any wares or other articles, shall be brought into the prison for the purpose of sale or to be sold within the said prison.

23.—That proper scales, weights and measures, shall be provided and kept for the use of the prisoners, to see that justice is done them, in respect of such articles as are brought them.

24.—That every prisoner shall be permitted to freely have and use such bedding and linen as he shall have occasion for, and can procure from without the prison; but the same shall be previously examined, to see that they are not in a foul or impure state and unfit for admission; and in such cases the bedding allowed by the Court of Aldermen shall be removed by the keeper.

25.—That the blankets, rugs, and other bedding of the prisoners, shall be frequently hung up to air, under the direction of the keeper.

26.—That in order to prevent the introduction of foul or impure clothing, spirituous liquors or any improper articles into the prison, all such clothes, victuals, and candles or parcels, as the prisoners may have brought to them, shall be subject to the inspection of the keeper or his assistants before delivery thereof.

27.—That such clothes and linen as the prisoners may require to be brought to them, as well as their bedding, shall be brought between the hours of nine and ten in the morning, or eleven in the forenoon, and four in the afternoon only.

28.—That all casual benefactions of provisions or broken victuals sent to the prisoners, shall be distributed by the keeper as he shall see fit, to those prisoners most in need, as soon as he conveniently can after they are received.

29.—That all other charities, bequests and donations, shall be distributed amongst the prisoners, under the directions of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen with the Sheriffs, except such bequests as are specially directed to be otherwise distributed.

30.—That all Court of Conscience debtors, both of the City and County, shall be equal partakers with the other poor debtors, of the benefit arising from all and every the charitable donations and legacies, either in provision or money.

31.—That all prisoners shall attend divine service in the Chapel on Sundays and on other days when service is appointed, unless prevented by illness or other reasonable cause; and such as refuse or neglect to attend, shall be locked up out of the yards during the time the service is performed.

32.—That any prisoner who is inclined to work, and can have the means of labour brought to him from without the prison, shall be permitted to work in a room to be appropriated for the purpose (but not elsewhere) at such kind of work or labour as shall from time to time be approved of by the Sheriffs or keeper.

33.—That no preference or indulgence shall be given to any prisoner, unless by an order in writing from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen or Sheriffs.

34.—That the smaller bed-rooms in the prison be appropriated only, by direction of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen or Sheriffs; and the prisoners occupying the same are to be subject to the same rules and regulations in every respect as the other prisoners, but are not to be partakers of any allowances or benefits arising from charities and benefactions.

35.—That no prisoner whatever shall be placed in any authority over any other prisoner.

36.—That no prisoner shall be allowed to exact from any other prisoner any fee or gratuity, under the name of *garnish*, or on any other pretence.

37.—That neither the keeper, nor any other officer or assistant employed within the prison, shall presume to take or accept any fee or gratuity from any prisoner, nor shall any, or either of them, be in any way, directly or indirectly, interested or concerned

concerned in any thing to be purchased or sold, for the use of any prisoner or prisoners.

38.—That no servant of the prison shall be allowed to eat or drink with any of the prisoners.

39.—That the surgeon shall not only visit the prisoners in the infirmary, but shall frequently, at least once in the course of the week, see the other prisoners, ill or well, in his or her respective room.

40.—That every prisoner who is, after being examined, declared by the surgeon to be a patient for the sick ward, shall be immediately removed to the infirmary.

41.—That every prisoner removed to the infirmary, shall be under the management and control of the surgeon, except as to the safe custody of his or her person.

42.—That wherever the surgeon shall find a poor prisoner, who requires for his health sake better diet, and shall make it appear to the satisfaction of the Sheriffs, that he has not means of procuring it himself, the surgeon shall be empowered to regulate the same, and direct it to be provided by the keeper, for the use of such poor prisoner.

43.—That smoking tobacco be not permitted in the infirmary, either in the sick or convalescent wards.

44.—That no prisoner be permitted to go into the infirmary, to visit any other prisoner, without an order in writing first had from the surgeon.

45.—That a division of the prison be set apart for disorderly, contumacious and refractory prisoners, and such as refuse or neglect to conform to the rules and regulations of the prison.

46.—That if any prisoner habitually and contumaciously absent himself from divine service, shall be guilty of drunkenness, profane cursing or swearing, gaming by dice, cards, or otherwise, irreverent conduct at chapel, or disrespectful conduct to the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, Secondaries, Under Sheriffs, or other officers of the City, the chaplain, surgeon, keeper, or any person employed under them in the prison, or shall oppose, hinder or obstruct any or either of them; or shall assault, threaten, quarrel with, use abusive words, defraud, or in any way molest or otherwise ill treat his fellow-prisoners, or any person coming into the prison; or shall wilfully waste, spoil, damage or destroy; or shall secrete, purloin, embezzle, pawn, or otherwise dispose of any article or thing belonging to the prison; or shall attempt to escape or conspire with any person so to do, or be in any way aiding or assisting therein; or shall refuse to conform to the rules and regulations made for the good government of the prison, or any of them; or shall in any way by open act obstruct, oppose, and disturb the good government of the said prison, such prisoner shall be deemed refractory, and dealt with accordingly, and shall be deprived of any allowance or benefit that may arise from charities or otherwise.

47.—That if it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Sheriffs, that any prisoner is entitled to his discharge, but neglects or refuses to apply for it, he shall not be permitted to partake of any allowance whatsoever, and the Sheriff shall be at liberty to apply for and obtain a supersedeas or order for the discharge of every such prisoner; and upon such supersedeas or order being obtained, on notice thereof being given to the keeper, he shall forthwith put every such prisoner out of the prison.

48.—That no visitor shall be allowed to go into the interior of the prison, the infirmary, or any of the court-yards or rooms appropriated to the prisoners, without an order in writing signed by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen or Sheriff, unless by the special permission of the keeper, under some peculiar circumstances, which he shall consider deserving thereof, and which he shall notice in a book to be kept by him; but visitors may be admitted into the rooms set apart for that purpose on week or working days, from the hour of nine until eleven in the forenoon, and from three to six in the afternoon, during the summer months; and from nine until eleven in the forenoon, and from two to four in the afternoon, during the winter months; and on Sundays from eight to nine in the forenoon, and from two to four in the afternoon, throughout the year; and the prison shall be cleared of all strangers and visitors, on week or working days, by eight o'clock in summer, and by four o'clock in the evening in winter; and on Sundays by five o'clock in the afternoon in summer, and four o'clock in the afternoon in winter.

49.—That no visitors shall be allowed to come in and go out of the prison more than twice in one day.

50.—That if any visitor to the debtors shall hesitate to go out when required so to do, or shall misbehave or act improperly towards the keeper or any of his servants, or any of the prisoners or other persons within the prison, the keeper may compel every such visitor to go out, and refuse them admittance until the facts are inquired

Mr. John Thacker.

inquired into by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen or the Sheriff, and orders are given thereupon.

51.—That more than one visitor at a time shall not be admitted to any prisoner in the infirmary, but under very particular circumstances, or where it is a child with a parent; nor shall they be permitted to continue longer than one hour, unless it is a wife to attend her husband; a parent a son or daughter; a son or daughter a parent; or a sister a brother, or other relation or near friend, to be approved by the surgeon, where, in the opinion of the surgeon, constant attendance upon such prisoner is necessary.

52.—That no visitor to a prisoner in the infirmary, shall be permitted to eat or drink in the sick ward, except a visitor allowed to remain longer than one hour, as before mentioned.

53.—That the keeper of the debtors prison for London and Middlesex, shall visit the several rooms or wards of the said prison, once in every day at least; and on every Monday morning, shall deliver to the Sheriffs for the time being, a report in writing of the state of the prison, and of any breach of these rules in the preceding week, and shall keep a book or journal, in which shall be regularly entered copies of the reports delivered to the Sheriffs, together with any observations he may have to make, from time to time, in respect of the said prison, and shall notice therein such orders as he may receive for the admission of visitors into the interior of the prison; and the said book or journal shall be at all times produced, whenever required by the Lord Mayor, or any of the Aldermen, and shall be laid upon the table at every Court of Aldermen, and at the Sessions, on every first day of its meeting.

Woodthorpe.

We approve of the above rules, orders and regulations.

ELLENBOROUGH.
July 18, 1816. V. GIBBS.

How long have these rules been established?—They were established before I came there.

When a prisoner is admitted into the prison, do you immediately assign to him his proper ward?—We call up the prison steward, and he assigns him to his proper ward.

Do you never put a London man upon the Middlesex side?—We never do; I understand it would be contrary to law to do it; it would be like an escape. I should perhaps qualify that by saying, that when a prisoner is refractory, whether he be a Middlesex or a London prisoner, he is taken to the refractory room, a room set apart for the purpose; but that has not occurred more than three times since I have been there.

Is there any fee received by the gaoler when a prisoner is admitted?—Not one halfpenny.

Not even to turn him over to the London side?—No, nor on going out.

There is no money given for any preference whatever within the place?—Certainly not.

Immediately a prisoner produces his freedom, you turn him over to the London side?—That is on the Ludgate side; he must take out some sort of document to entitle him to Ludgate; but the writ directs us where to place him in all cases.

It is stated in the petition, that a sum of money is levied upon each debtor, on his coming in, for the purchase of candles, and additional coals; is that the fact?—That is the fact, it is established by themselves; the keepers have nothing to do with it; it is among themselves for the good regulation of the place; and it is to pay the poorer sort of prisoners for cleaning out the places, and for the use of the culinary utensils.

How is this money levied?—When a man goes in, a demand of sixteen shillings is made upon him by the steward, and if he cannot pay it, he works it out at the rate of one shilling per day.

Do you think that that imposition upon prisoners just brought in for debt, at all tends to the good regulation of the prison?—I do think it does.

Is it voluntary?—If he is poor and cannot pay he works it out, and then half the scavenger's pay is taken off.

Have they any means of enforcing the payment if a person refuses to pay?—Certainly not.

Did you ever know any refuse?—Yes, many.

What took place in consequence?—They were obliged to work it out, and some would

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would not even do that; they have called upon us sometimes to interfere, but we never dare interfere.

What do you mean by working it out?—Doing the scavenger's work, and cleaning the tables, and so on, for which they receive a shilling a day, which is set off against their deposit; and when a man has worked sixteen days he is clear.

You have said that some have neither paid the money nor been willing to work?—There have been three instances of that sort, since I have been there.

Did the other prisoners inflict any punishment upon them?—No.

What occurred in consequence of their refusal?—Of course, they are often grumbling at them; they lead an unpleasant life, if the others think they have the means of paying.

Are they prevented going near the fire?—No; it has been once attempted to keep a man from the fire, but we put an end to that very soon.

Is the quantity of coal given sufficient?—Certainly not, not equal to the week's consumption.

With a more economical use of it, how many days do you think it would last?—There are about forty men in a ward, and there are four bushels allowed.

Is it not the duty of the keeper of the prison to employ his own servants to keep the prison clean?—The law prescribes that the prisoners are to do some parts; the passages and the stair-case are done by the servants of the place; the prisoners are enjoined to wash twice a week in the summer, and once in the winter, the yard, the day-rooms, and the bed-rooms.

Who appoints the stewards of the various wards?—They call a meeting, and elect their own steward by a majority of voices.

What quantity of coals are allowed?—Four bushels a week for each of the large wards, where there are thirty or forty people.

Do they not keep in very large fires?—During the cooking time of the day they are very great; from twelve to three.

Do you suppose, if they did not cook, there would be coals enough to keep the room in a sufficient heat?—I think they hardly would; they are very long rooms, and they must keep a large fire to warm the extremity.

What are the allowances to the prisoners by their creditors?—Sixpence a day; as soon as they get them in execution, they then sue for the sixpences; and if the sixpences are not paid, they are set at liberty; every Monday, if the sixpences are not paid for the week, they can sue out a supersedeas for their discharge.

Do they receive that sixpence in addition to the prison allowance?—Certainly.

Can you tell the Committee what proportion of the prisoners are in the habit of receiving that sixpence?—A very great proportion of them get out by the Insolvent Act. I could not answer that exactly. I will send an account to the Committee of the number receiving the sixpences.

Do any of the other prisoners receive other sixpences as poor prisoners from the country?—Not that I know of.

Do all the prisoners indiscriminately receive the allowance of bread and meat?—They do not; the allowance used formerly to be to such as used to go to the chapel; those that did not, were not entitled to it; that plan has been altered, and now those who are entitled to it must get a certificate that they are poor; the consequence is, that there are not more than ten but have obtained their certificates.

Who grants those certificates?—There are blanks found by the Court of Aldermen, and the prisoners send them out to get them signed by three of their friends; and I am sorry to say, that a great number of them are forged in the prison.

Of course, in those cases, the allowance was stopped?—No; we made them get a proper certificate, or else we did not allow them the provisions.

Do you know whether the meat was stopped from any particular ward, in consequence of the riot?—I do not know that of my own knowledge, but I have heard of it.

Has it struck you, that there could be any other better plan devised for regulating the distribution of the provisions, and checking frauds?—I think if the Court of Aldermen would revert back to their old plan, allowing it to those who go to the chapel, those only who were deserving of it would then get it.

As to the extra quantity of coals consumed, how are they supplied?—Out of the fund I have described before, and whenever there is a surplus in that fund, it is divided among them; if there is more in hand than will carry them through the next week's expenses, it is divided amongst them, which is sometimes the case.

Is the allowance of coals the same in summer as winter?—Yes.

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Is it found insufficient during the summer as well as the winter?—I fancy there is not so much complaint in the summer; it would probably do for the cooking, and that would be all.

Upon the subject of provisions, the Committee wish to know what quantity is brought into the prison by different public bodies, or given by different individuals?—I cannot say distinctly; but there is, on the London side, a great quantity of otto and bolo; the one comes from the City of London Tavern, and the other from Mr. Birch's, at Cornhill, to the amount of nearly sixty pounds per day.

Sixty pounds of meat?—No, it is not all meat, but it makes excellent soup; it is what comes from the potted beef, and other things of that sort.

How is it distributed?—It is distributed by the stewards to any that want it; the poorer sort take it, and those who do not want it will not take it, of course.

That is given only to the London side?—Yes; and there are several donations in money, and one in bread and meat.

Do you know the amount of the donations?—I think the pecuniary amount is somewhere about 270*l.* per annum in different parts of the prison? but I should say, that the Middlesex part of the prison has the least part of it. It arises from gifts in London, and goes to the London parts of the prison.

How is that distributed?—By the steward, under the direction of the keeper.

Can you give the proportion to the different wards?—I cannot; but the greater portion goes to Ludgate, where there are the fewest prisoners; it is prescribed by the will how it shall be given out. I have known the Ludgate prisoners who were then but eleven in number, share 44*l.* in money in three months; there are boards in different parts of the prison setting forth the different donations, so that each ward may know what they have to receive.

Are they at liberty to spend it according to their own inclination?—Yes.

In any quantity of liquor?—No; the laws of the prison prescribe to them a certain quantity.

But on some occasions they will get more than the allowance?—Yes; the poor prisoners of course cannot get it, those who have money can.

Have you discovered persons frequently in a state of drunkenness?—Not so repeatedly; since I have been there, they have been pretty tolerable; a great deal of gin used to be got in; there has been as much gin sold in the prison as in a public-house, under old Mr. Kirby; he could not suppress it.

At present can you speak of your own knowledge, whether any quantity of spirits are got in?—We are often detecting it; we have had several people before the Lord Mayor or sitting Alderman for it; they try every means of getting it in; they bring it in a pie or a loaf, and women get bladders and tie round their bodies.

Have you a woman searcher?—We have.

She searches the women as they come in?—Yes.

Are the friends indiscriminately admitted into the wards?—No they are not; not into the interior; they are admitted by a regulation from the Court of Aldermen into the visiting room. We never refuse any one admission into the prison except when a man comes in a state of intoxication, or a woman whom we know to be a woman of ill fame.

What persons are admitted into the interior?—Professional men at all times, and such as have an order from the Court of Aldermen, or from the Sheriffs; we recommend them in a printed order to the Court of Aldermen and Sheriffs; they are carried there and then an admission ticket is signed by them.

Do you receive any orders of admission from the Under Sheriff?—Never, I believe.

Do you mean to say, that professional men are let in at all hours?—At all business hours; we never refuse a solicitor at any time; or if an agent for an insolvent comes, I let him in at any hour, after the doors are unlocked.

By one of the regulations, the prisoners are to be permitted to have ale, &c. from any place they shall think fit; is there not a particular person appointed in the prison to supply them with beer?—There was a person that used to supply them chiefly, but they could at all times send out where they pleased; there is another in now.

Some of the prisoners complained to the Committee, that they had no choice, but were under the necessity of purchasing from one individual?—That was not the fact; they may send where they please for it; but they will be at the expense of sending to the publican to bring it to them.

They also stated, that there were now two; that there was now a competition, and that they were better served, and got better measure?—They always had the sealed measure.

Is

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Is the beer brought in in large cans?—Yes, with taps to draw it off in their presence.

To your knowledge, have they full measure, the same as is sold at the public houses?—I have no doubt of it.

Are they at liberty to get their beer from any person thay please?—They are.

Have you ever heard that the magistrates gave any order for any particular person to supply them with any article?—I never heard of it.

Do those persons who have the privilege of selling beer in the prison pay any thing to any body in the prison?—Not a farthing.

Do you allow different butchers to go in to supply them with meat?—Yes.

Has any one of those butchers left the prison?—Yes.

Can you tell the reason?—I believe they got the poor fellow so into debt, that he could not go on.

Have they got in debt with the man who supplies them with beer?—I do not think he would trust them.

Supposing they were to request that another person might come in to sell them porter, would they be allowed to do so?—Certainly; they have another man now.

In the event of any prisoner wishing to send for beer to any place without the prison, he is entitled to do so on paying a person to go?—Certainly; there are messengers who attend the prison regularly to do such things for them; some send their own children for things they want.

Suppose they chose to send for the large cans of ten, twelve or twenty gallons, they may do it?—Certainly? when this stranger came in this last time, he came at the request of some of the prisoners, and we allowed him to go in.

How does it happen, that there are only two individuals who have the privilege of selling beer in the prison?—I suppose more do not think it worth their while.

Does the landlord supply them with newspapers?—He does.

And those who do serve them with beer in the prison have your particular permission for that purpose?—We never refuse anybody; we do not think ourselves authorized to make any objection.

Has the beer that has been supplied to the prison, been esteemed by the prisoners to be good?—It has; as good as any beer in London; I drink it myself; the publican is a man of property, and independent, I believe, of his brewer, and I think able to serve them well.

What quantity of bedding is allowed to each prisoner?—A rug, a pair of blankets, a straw mattrass, a pillow, and an iron bedstead.

Have you been at any one time so crowded, that you have not been able to give each prisoner a separate bed?—No, certainly not.

Have you any separate rooms?—There are some small single bedded rooms in the prison.

How many have you of those?—About thirty in the prison, and thirty-six large rooms.

Is the small room sufficient for the size of one bed?—Quite so; and there is never more than one in any instance.

Each having a fire-place?—Yes.

Do you give those rooms to any particular prisoners?—They are appropriated generally by recommendation from the Court of Aldermen and Sheriffs, but we sometimes use them for a man who has a violent cough, who disturbs the other prisoners, or a man not very well, but not so unwell as to be in the sick ward; for the sake of quiet and ease he is put there, or to prevent a quarrel; if a man is troublesome we put him in a ward by himself.

Have you a great number of Court of Conscience debtors sent in?—Yes, a great many.

What number have you now in the whole prison of these debtors?—From twenty to thirty.

Are they all from the county of Middlesex?—No, I believe not; there are some on the London side.

Have they the same allowance as the other prisoners?—Yes; and those on the Middlesex side have a day-ward to themselves, and a bed-ward to themselves.

What is the highest debt cognizable by the Court of Conscience?—From three shillings to 5 *l*.

Are any actually committed for three shillings?—Yes; and we very often send them out again immediately.

What are the expeenss of that?—Sometimes six or seven shillings, when they are getting

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getting to an execution; I have known six or seven shillings expended upon a five or six shilling debt.

Have you at present a person in the prison that is in a state of insanity?—We have.

What is his name?—Nott.

Do you know for what amount he is in?—He has two actions going against him now.

Was this man in a state of insanity when he was sent in?—He was not quite of sound mind when he came in first.

Do you conceive him to have grown worse since he has been in?—He certainly has.

In what place has he been confined since he has been in prison?—He was in the ward among the others for a long while, till he got so ill, that it was thought proper to get him out, and then he was sent to the convalescent ward, under the care of the surgeon.

How many other persons are there usually in that?—About ten.

Is this man a foul or a clean patient?—He is now become a foul patient.

Is he not notoriously troublesome and offensive in the highest degree to every individual in the ward?—He was so much so, that he has now been removed into a room by himself.

When was he removed?—Very recently; the very day the Committee visited the prison.

How long had he been in a riotous and offensive state before he was removed?—It was for his foul state he was removed; he was perfectly inoffensive.

Into what apartment was he removed?—Into the room we call the refractory room, and there was a man hired on purpose to attend him, and there was a fire in the room.

Can you say how long he had been in a state particularly riotous and offensive before he was removed into that room?—I cannot state that exactly; he was moved out of the ward from the other prisoners, in consequence of his taking their clothes from them, and being so many of them together, there were some foolish enough to teaze him.

Did the patients in the convalescent ward complain of him?—They did latterly.

Have you never heard complaints of the language he used, as well as the offensiveness of his person?—He used to swear violently.

Are there not in the convalescent ward occasionally persons who have been in a better situation in life, and who are decent in their manners and behaviour, and whose friends who visit them are of the same class?—Certainly, there are.

Have you tried every means possible to get this man out?—Yes, we have tried to get his discharge, and I believe the matter is now in the hands of the City Solicitor.

When the Committee visited the prison, you stated you were in hopes he would be discharged?—Mr. Kirby, the son of the late keeper, told me I might have his discharges by going for them.

Has every possible means been taken to get him discharged?—Certainly, and to prepare for his discharge we have been among the parish officers, to see what could be done with him when he was discharged; we could not turn him into the street.

Do you know at whose suit he was sent into the prison?—No.

Have you any reason to suppose he was sent in under a friendly arrest?—It has been said so, but I have no foundation for it; it was said he was sent in by a relation, to get rid of him, but I have not been able to learn that.

Since you have been there, have you ever had any other insane person there?—I do not know that we have; we have one whose name is Fitzroy; he is not insane, but he was odd in his manner.

When Nott was first sent into the prison, was he then conceived to be so nearly in a state of insanity, as to be subjected to the inspection of the surgeon?—He certainly was not verging so near as to be under the inspection of the surgeon.

Can you at all recollect how long it was after he was received into the common room, before the symptoms of decided insanity appeared upon him?—I cannot say precisely.

Do you know of any power to remove such a prisoner without paying and discharging all his debts?—I do not.

What sort of a place is the refractory ward?—About 18 feet square.

Is your prison frequently visited by the magistrates?—Pretty often.

How

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How often; at particular periods?—No, not at particular periods.

When the magistrates visit, do they go into the wards?—They have seen the wards several times when I have been there; they have visited the bed-rooms.

Do you know of there being a visiting magistrate's book?—I never saw it.

Do you not know that there is a gaol committee, which consists of the magistrates of the City?—Yes, there is.

Do they frequently come to the prison and sit there as a committee?—They have done so several times since I have been there.

Do they visit the prison; do they come the same as a committee?—They do.

Do they inquire into the abuses?—They do; and inquire in the wards whether there are any complaints.

Do they come at any fixed times?—No, they do not.

You have been turnkey ten months?—Not turnkey, but assistant.

What was the state of the windows of the gaol when you came?—They were in a very broken state when I came.

How long had they remained in that state?—All the time I have been there, till within about a month from this time.

What induced you to repair them?—I had no hand in it; it rested with the Court of Aldermen.

Did the committee witness the state of those windows?—They have seen them, no doubt.

Did the prisoners complain much of the cold from the windows being broken?—The ward windows were not in so bad a state as the windows in the passages and water closets.

Were your windows repaired on a Sunday?—Some of the workmen were there on one Sunday.

Were they not repairing them the Sunday before the committee were there?—It was a Sunday; but whether the immediate Sunday before I do not know.

You do not know whether any of the prisoners meat was stopped in consequence of the windows being broken?—Not since I have been there.

How often do you whitewash the prison?—It has been whitewashed once since I have been there.

What time of the year was that?—About five months back.

Do you wash the floors frequently?—Yes.

Are the yards apt to be flooded?—No.

Do the prisoners complain much of the dampness of the prison?—They do of one room, where there has been saw dust placed.

In point of fact, is there any one of the yards from which the water runs into the ward?—Certainly not; it is impossible; the yards are on a declivity, and the water runs off.

When the windows were thus broken, could the wind and rain beat into the wards?—No; there were pieces of paper pasted up instead of the glass.

Did the prisoners complain much of the cold?—I have heard some complain of the broken windows.

Do you know whether the windows were not a very considerable number of them broken during a riot in the prison?—It is a notorious fact, known to all the turnkeys in the prison, and to the neighbours.

You cannot speak to what the nature of the riot was?—No.

How many turnkeys have you?—Eight turnkeys.

What are they paid per week?—Thirty shillings each; and two scavengers a guinea each.

No fees of any kind?—Not a sixpence.

Nor perquisite?—No; if it was known that a man took any, he would be discharged.

The windows having been mended, are the prisoners informed, that if they are broken again by any act of violence, that the ward in which they are broken is to be charged with the expenses by a deduction from their allowance of meat?—Yes; I told them the Corporation had agreed to mend them if they would not break them again; but if they broke them again, that each ward was to be liable for their own windows, and they should pay it out of the money collected.

To your knowledge has no meat been stopped to pay for those windows?—Not in my time.

Did not a prisoner say, that the whole of those who had been the cause of breaking the

Mr. *John Thacker.* the windows were now removed, and that on that account the windows ought to be mended?—That is so; there are but two or three of the old ones left.

When a person obtains permission to occupy one of the small rooms by himself, is he indulged with the liberty of having in his own furniture and fire if he chooses?—In the day-room he may have his own fire and furniture.

If a man has a small bed-room of his own, he is not permitted to occupy it in the day-time?—No, they are locked up in the day-time.

Have you quarrels frequently in the day-rooms?—Very seldom.

How do you quell them?—I can quell them by holding up my finger, in an instant.

Mr. *Thomas Wadd,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. *Thomas Wadd.* YOU are Surgeon, appointed by the Court of Aldermen, to the Whitecross-street prison?—I am.

How long have you been so?—Since Christmas 1815.

Have you a salary for your attendance in this gaol?—I have.

State to the Committee what that salary is?—Two hundred pounds per annum.

Do you find medicines?—That includes all charges, medicines and attendance.

What is the state of the gaol at the present moment; can you tell how many people there are in the infirmary?—There are seventeen males and three females.

Is there a distinction made between the county and city prisoners, in the sick ward?—None whatever.

It is all one ward?—Yes, for the reception of those who are sick.

The females are likewise put together?—There is a ward adapted to the women, in a particular manner.

Do you recollect a man of the name of Nott being brought into the prison, who was in a doubtful state as to his sanity?—I do.

Will you be so good as to give the Committee your opinion, as to what was his real state when he was brought in?—At the time I first saw him as a patient, he had been a short time in the prison; I found him then in a heavy state, and with very low spirits; I thought him disposed to be apoplectic from the symptoms, and had him removed into the sick ward; he then became subject to epilectic fits, and has been a patient for the greater part of a twelvemonth, I think, requiring constant care and attention, from the diseased state he is in in consequence of those fits; he has lately at times become violent, but not such as to require his being put by himself; he was not an inconvenience to the sick ward till lately; the evil has become recently of that character, as to require his being put aside, and also requiring a person to attend upon him in his present state; as to his general health, the symptoms have rather abated within these two days; he is in a very serious state of health, as to his mind and body; also we have had occasion to make particular inquiries, as to the mode by which he was brought into the prison; I cannot trace that he has been improperly arrested; as to his being placed there, our exertions have been to have him removed from that place, as being a very serious inconvenience to the prison; I have been led to understand he has property; and the brother is the person that said, that the persons who arrested him, would discharge him upon his being properly taken care of, or placed in some fit situation under the circumstances under which he labours.

Do you apprehend, that the man was at all really insane when he was first brought into the prison?—I have no knowledge of that fact; I went to a person in Aldermanbury that was accustomed to see him, where he boarded and lodged, to inquire the state of mind he was in before his being arrested; I there learnt that they did not consider that he was in a deranged state at that time.

Supposing him to have been on the verge of insanity, do you not think it probable that the manner of his confinement, during the first portion of time he was in prison, would be very likely to have brought it on?—Certainly.

Do you or not apprehend that his insanity is the consequence, more or less, of his epileptic fits?—Certainly.

How long, from the information you have received, do you apprehend he has been in a state troublesome and offensive to the other persons in the convalescent ward?—He has been an evil to the ward, as far as disturbing them at night-time, for two months, and as to foulness within this week only.

Are you of opinion, that it was consistent with the improvement of the health of the other convalescent patients, that a person of his description should be permitted to remain for two months or more in the same apartment?—I have said, he was a source

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source of disturbance to the ward at night; he was perfectly tractable, not a derangement of violence except when removing his clothes, to which he objected, or putting him into clean linen; upon those occasions, which were occasions of necessity, he was untractable; his powers of utterance were defective.

Did he not in fact create such a disturbance as to be inconsistent with the convenience and the health of the convalescents in the ward?—Certainly; he interfered with the comfort of the ward, not a doubt about it.

In consequence of the situation you have described, you have removed him?—Yes.

Where to?—Into a room called the strong room.

Is it a comfortable room?—It has a fire-place in it; I have ordered a fire in it, and to make it as comfortable as it can be made; I have one objection to it, which is its being a stone floor.

Is there no other place in the gaol where he may be placed?—There are small rooms in the upper part of the prison; I have given directions for him to be placed in a more convenient room if it could be found; I do not know whether he has been removed or not; I considered his being placed in the refractory room merely as a temporary thing, till we could find a better room with a fire-place; there are no fire-grates in the upper rooms.

Have you found a room appropriate?—I do not know that they have; I gave directions to the servants of the prison to find a proper place for him.

Are you of opinion, that a person in the state in which he was, could be kept, even with safety to his health, in that refractory room for any length of time?—My opinion is, that he could not.

For that reason you have ordered him to be removed?—I have; and I should hope they have obeyed the order.

Is the infirmary sufficiently large?—It is not.

Have you any other room besides the room in which they sleep; is there a day-room?—No; the ward is a bed-room and day-room.

Is there a kitchen?—No.

Therefore it is a day-room, sleeping-room, and kitchen?—Yes.

Do you conceive the cooking in that room to be prejudicial to the patients?—I do.

Where is the necessary?—At the end of the ward at the top of the staircase; there is one belonging to the convalescent ward underneath the surgery; and the nurse mentioned in my hearing, for the first time to my knowledge, the other day, when the Committee visited the prison, that the water-closet of the convalescent ward was a grievance to her from the offensive smells.

Have you not observed that yourself?—No, because when I go the windows are open.

Do you visit the prison every day?—Yes, I do.

How are the patients supplied with food in the infirmary?—I have permission from the City to give directions for every and any kind of food that may be necessary, for better diet, wine, or any other necessaries I may think proper; they are provided and charged in a weekly bill, called "The Sick Ward Bill."

Whatever you think necessary is ordered?—Yes, and I examine the bill weekly, which is paid by the keeper to the nurse.

Have you additional clothing in case it is necessary?—I have none, except what I have been able to get from the assistance of the sheriffs.

Have you sheets?—Yes, I have sheets provided by the City.

Shirts?—Linen shirts I have not, but I have had assistance from the sheriffs, in that respect, and in stockings.

How do you supply them with medicines?—It is included in the salary.

And the bandages?—Yes.

What has been the average annual expense of medicines, &c.?—I have been two years in the situation, and it does not enable me to form an average of that; I should give, as a general statement, 60*l.* or 70*l.* as far as I can form any judgment at present.

In the present crowded state of the infirmary, how many patients can be accommodated in the sick ward?—The sick ward has ten beds, and the convalescent has nine.

You have now seventeen patients in those two wards?—Yes.

There are therefore two vacancies?—Yes.

In the event of your having a greater addition than two, what resource should you have for such individual?—I should be obliged to remove the most convalescent down stairs, or open another ward to put the convalescent into. Among the cases

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in the infirmary at present, there are not more than three or four that are urgent or serious cases; the greater part of them might be removed.

In the event of any individuals being afflicted with an infectious disorder, what course should you pursue; have you any resource in such a case?—No, only to take them into the sick ward.

Are the accidents and fevers mixed?—They are all in the sick ward.

Can you state about the average number of sick?—About 30, taking the out-patients and in-patients.

What is the average of the fever patients you have?—I have great satisfaction in saying, that I have no average to give as to fever, we have had so little; the typhus fever we know only by name.

Do you consider the prison healthy?—I do.

Were you appointed surgeon on its first opening?—I was moved with the prisoners from the Compter.

What time of the year were they removed?—Part in the middle of the year, and the remainder in the Christmas quarter; the Newgate prisoners were removed at the Christmas quarter.

What was the state of the prison at the time they were removed, was it fit to receive them?—The prison was but recently finished, the fitness of it I am hardly able to speak to.

Was it dry?—The prison was dry.

Was not it very damp?—Not to my knowledge; I have reason to be of a different opinion.

At the time of its being opened?—The keeper's family resided in the private part of the prison, and I never heard of any complaint of dampness, nor did I ever witness any.

Was there any sickness caused by it to your knowledge?—Colds and inflammations there were a great many, but I never witnessed any thing to be called dampness, any thing more than what originated in the atmosphere.

Information has been given to the Committee, that the prison was in a wet state, when the prisoners were first admitted into the prison; is that true or not?—To my belief it is not true.

Do you remember a prisoner dying when the prison was first opened?—Yes.

Did the coroner sit?—Yes.

What was the verdict?—The verdict was, that he died in consequence of the dampness of the place.

How do you reconcile that with your answer that the prison was not damp?—By my own investigation, and the committee of physicians ordered by the Court of Aldermen to make inquiry into the same, and the committee of surveyors.

When did those two committees meet, was it immediately after that?—It was immediately after the coroner's verdict, a few days after.

Were you not sent down to the friends of this man to inquire into his previous state of health?—I corresponded with a medical gentleman who attended him before.

What was his answer?—The substance of his answer was, that he was previously ill from the gout, and other general ill state of health; and that that circumstance, added to his distress of mind at being thrown into a prison, the medical man easily conceived as a sufficient cause to account for his decease; and that he had informed his relations, that upon a future attack of illness of a similar kind, it was most probable it would be fatal, from what he had seen of his previous state of health.

Have you with you the report of the physicians appointed to examine the state of the prison?—I have.

[*It was delivered in and read, as follows:*]

"We, the undersigned, having been requested by the Committee of Aldermen for the management of the several Gaols of the City, to inspect and view the New Prison for debtors in Whitecross-street, and to report our opinion as to its fitness for the reception of persons confined therein, beg to state, that we have, in conformity with this requisition, visited the said prison; and after a full examination of the same, are of opinion, that in its situation, general construction, and present condition, it is sufficiently adapted for the purpose for which it is designed; and that we do not, either with regard to dampness, or any other important circumstance, consider it otherwise than fit for the safe reception of prisoners.

(Signed) *John Meyer*, M. D.
London, *Wm Babington*, M. D.
February 17th, 1816." *Joseph Adams*, M. D.

Mr. Thomas Wadd.

Have you an Account of the number of deaths in the prison in the years 1816 and 1817?—I have.

[*It was delivered in and read, as follows:*]

Deaths in 1816.

Of pulmonary disease	3
apoplexy and epilepsy	3
mortification	2
nervous fever	1
dropsy and liver complaint	2
Total	11

Deaths in 1817:

Of apoplexy	4
pulmonary disease	3
diseased liver	1
mortification	1
Total	9

1816: of persons brought in mentally deranged	4
1817: ditto	4
Total	8

N. B.—Two now in the prison.

(Signed) *Thoˢ Wadd*, Surgeon.

Has there been any contagious fever since you have been in the place?—None.

Is there a physician appointed to the prison?—There is a physician appointed in any case of urgency, both to Newgate and Whitecross-street prison; Dr. Adams is the physician.

What was the direction of the Committee of Aldermen to you when the question was under consideration, as to taking care of the sick?—That they should be very liberally provided for, and taken care of, that nothing should be stinted whatever.

In case of a deceased prisoner's friends not being able to bury him, who is at the expense?—The Corporation.

Do you remember the windows being broken in the wards?—Yes, on the Middlesex side particularly.

They remained broken for a considerable time; did they not?—Yes.

And have been only lately repaired?—No.

Did many of the prisoners complain of colds or other diseases in consequence?—Of colds and rheumatisms they did.

In consequence of the windows being broken?—Yes.

Could the weather beat into the rooms?—Yes, into one of the day-rooms, not into the bed-rooms; it was only one day-room which was subjected to the ball when they were playing at fives.

Do you know the quantity of food the prisoners have?—I do.

Do you conceive it to be sufficient for them?—Not without further assistance; as to meat, it is sufficient for a man in health, but not for a man in a state of disease.

Those at all times you are allowed to provide for?—Yes, to any extent that in my judgment is right.

Do you think it is sufficient without purchasing provisions themselves, to keep them in health?—I do not think that two pounds of meat is sufficient in the course of the week; but they have other assistance, what they call otto and bolo, from the taverns, that is on the City side.

Are you aware of any persons dying for want of food?—No.

Do you see many persons in the prison who you think were ill from want of food?—I have seen persons look ill and in a very emaciated state, but they are very rarely without having some assistance from their fellow prisoners who are in better circumstances, and have the assistance of their friends.

Are you of opinion, that the allowance would be sufficient if it was cooked for them, as is to be done in Newgate?—I think it would be sufficient so managed, and better for themselves.

As

Mr. Thomas Wadd.

As to the bread, will you state to the Committee your opinion, whether the allowance of 14 ounces of white bread is sufficient?—I think it is.

What sort of bread is it?—It is very good indeed; I inspect it myself every day, and make the tradesman take it back if it is not good.

Generally speaking, is the meat good?—Yes.

And the bread excellent?—Yes.

Do you happen to know how the breakage of the windows arose?—By a riot in the prison.

Do you know the origin of that riot?—I attributed it to opposition to the regulations approved by the chief justices and magistrates.

The soldiers were called in to quell them?—I do not remember that; at the time of the late disturbances, there were soldiers there.

Jovis, 12° *die Martii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. *Thomas Wadd* again called in; and Examined.

Mr. Thomas Wadd.

WHAT papers have you there?—The cases of derangements in the prison, all that have been within my knowledge since the first establishment; and likewise a report of the proceedings of a committee of Aldermen, on the verdict of a man having died from the damp of the prison.

[*They were delivered in.*]

You stated in your last examination, that you had given orders to remove an insane patient from the refractory ward to some other; has that been done?—Yesterday it had not been done.

Is it done this morning?—I waited, and superintended it myself.

And the patient is removed now?—Yes, into a proper and fit room, which I think will give satisfaction, where there is air and light and a fire-place, and a person to attend upon him constantly. We have this difficulty I wish to mention, that as to the rooms that are in the upper part of the prison, private rooms, that would be an accommodation to me, they have a barrier upon the stairs which debars me from intercourse, a barrier to protect the prisoners from going into the bed wards.

How can that be remedied?—It makes a difficulty to me which I am hardly able to overcome, other than by a servant going to open that barrier to give me access to the patients.

That applies to this man only?—All the private rooms there are.

It can only arise on a similar occasion to this?—Just so.

You have stated in your former examination, that you considered the apartments set aside for the infirmaries (there being two) did not afford sufficient accommodation?—I did.

Can you suggest, from your knowledge of the prison, any mode in which other rooms adjoining or conveniently situated, might be applied to the purpose of an infirmary, so as to relieve those wards?—I can; it would be an accommodation to open a door way from the sick ward into the London side, through the wall at the end of the room, it would give me a second room on that side; the London side is not crowded, and that room could be given to me without any inconvenience to the London side people,

The door must be perforated through?—There has been a door way in the original building, which has been blocked up; it is only opening that again, and it would give me additional room on the same floor.

With respect to the water closet, is there any plan you could suggest to remove it?—It does not occur to me at all at this moment; the offensiveness arises from the want of having a ventilator, in a great degree. I have ordered a ventilator, which is considered by myself and others to be capable of removing the offensiveness of it.

Is it not convenient to patients, at particular times, to have a water-closet so near?—A very great accommodation.

You stated on your former examination, that you never were aware that any offensive smell was created by the infirmary?—Not till the Committee came there, and the nurse's mentioning it at the time, she never mentioned it before; the windows when I am there are open, and probably that is the reason it was not offensive to myself.

There

Mr. *Thomas Wadd.*

There is a great supply of water?—Yes, and every accommodation to the cleanliness of the privy.

It must be the fault of themselves if it is offensive?—I should think so, unless there is any thing that is offensive from the pipes.

To what purpose do you propose to apply this room you suggest?—For a sick ward.

Would it be a good thing to have a day-room for your patients?—It would be an advantage; a convalescent room would be a desirable thing for all patients to be in when they are out of their beds.

If you had this additional room given you, you would then have a day-room only without beds?—I should be glad to have beds; the system of the place is, that of putting a person in the infirmary to remain there; I have very few day-patients.

By having these two rooms you may separate the diseases; one may be for the more virulent, and the other for the more mild diseases?—Yes, I believe there are beds in the room at present.

Where would you have the food cooked?—Below stairs; it would be desirable.

Would the refractory-room do for that?—There is a room below stairs which is part of the conversation-room.

Would that do for a kitchen, connected with the sick ward?—It would.

Did you ever hear the prisoners complain of the beer?—Never; nor do I ever recollect its disagreeing with them medically; it is communicated to the prisoners by the stewards, that they all have the liberty of sending where they please for their beer; I think this right of the prisoners is referred to in the Regulations.

Did Turnstill supply the prisoners with beer, before this Committee went to the prison?—I do not know.

Mr. *John Law*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *John Law.*

HOW long have you been keeper of the Borough Compter?—Nine years in September.

Who appointed you?—Sir Watkin Lewes.

What was your salary when you were first appointed?—Sir Watkin agreed to give me forty or fifty pounds a year.

No specific sum?—No.

Did he pay you that?—He did not.

How long were you keeper under those conditions?—Fifteen months.

Will you state to the Committee how you were paid afterwards?—I was appointed an officer of the Court of Requests.

What was your income from that office?—I judge it to be 200 *l.* a year, more or less.

Was that a compensation for your duties as an officer of that court, and also as keeper?—Yes.

Then, did the duty required of you as an officer of that court, take you from your duties as keeper of that prison?—Very little.

Every day?—Every day, but I had not that responsibility then that I have now.

What was the quantum of attendance per day as officer of the Court of Requests?—It took up the whole of my time; I was in and out continually, may be a dozen times a day.

What were you doing?—Attending and serving summonses and executions, and processes from that court.

What did you use to consider yourself to be called?—An officer of the high bailiff.

What were your duties as that officer?—It was to serve summonses upon the defendants, and attachments and executions; and also I used to do a great deal of agency business, which was profitable.

Agency business as connected with that court?—Yes.

How many prisoners had you in custody about that time?—Not more than twenty I should imagine; they varied.

What was the greatest number?—When I was first appointed there were no more than five in the prison.

How long did you fill that situation of officer of the court?—I filled it till within these three years, and then the Court of Aldermen thought it not compatible with my office as keeper of the prison.

Do you know how many prisoners you had at any one time, from the time of your filling the office up to this alteration?—Not exactly; perhaps from twenty to thirty, sometimes more.

Mr. John Law.

When the Court of Aldermen ordered you to give up that office, what salary did they order you to receive?—150*l.* a year.

What other allowances?—There was no other allowance, except the coals.

You have a house to live in, free of rent and taxes?—Yes.

Were you allowed any thing else?—Coals.

Any thing else?—No; we seldom have more than one fire, which serves the kitchen and the turnkey.

You have no bread, or other allowance of any kind?—No.

Do you take any fees?—No, except in making out copies of causes for the attornies, I have then eighteen-pence each, which I believe amounts to six or seven shillings in the year.

Those are paid for by the attornies?—Yes.

That was voluntary on your part, you were not bound to make the copies?—They want a copy of the causes when they wish to get a person out by the Insolvent Act.

It is for debtors then?—Yes.

Are you bound to make the copies?—I do not know; it is necessary they should have it; the Insolvent Debtors Court requires it.

It is by order of the court you do it?—The attornies apply for it, and I consider it work done.

It is necessary they should have a copy?—Yes.

They could get those copies at the Sheriff's office?—Yes, they could at the Bailiff's office.

That does not amount to above five or six shillings a year?—No; not knowing whether I was right, I made a minute of it, but I have not the book with me.

Is there any thing paid on the discharge of a debtor?—Nothing but the officers fee, and that I do not receive, if they stop the time; if they stop the time allowed by Act of Parliament there is no charge made.

What time is that which you allude to?—It is according to the amount of the debt.

That is under the Insolvent Act?—No, they are Court of Conscience Debtors; for the Insolvent Debtors there is no fee whatever.

Suppose they are discharged before the time which is limited, what fee have they to pay?—It is according to the amount of the debt; some a shilling, eighteen-pence, two-and-sixpence, three, four and five shillings.

Who demands that fee?—The plaintiff signs the discharge upon the back of the execution, and takes it to the Court of Requests Office, and they send me an order to discharge that person out of my custody, and there they receive the officers fee, unless it happens on a Sunday.

Do you know who partakes of that fee?—It is for the officer, for making his levy.

Not the clerks in the Court of Requests Office?—No; if the prisoner stops his time there is no fee to the officer, he has his trouble for nothing.

The officer has no duty to perform for this at all?—Yes, he takes the person in custody and brings him to the Compter, if they cannot pay the debt.

Having been in custody ten days instead of forty, and discharged, what has the officer to do then?—He has his caption fee.

He has no labour to perform for it?—Not then.

You receive the discharge and discharge the man?—Yes; but they are only let out on those conditions.

Suppose a person is so poor he cannot pay the fee?—They will not grant an order for his discharge.

Suppose the plaintiff is willing to discharge the debtor, and he is not enabled to pay the fee, he will still remain to serve out his time?—Yes, unless the officer was sent to, and chose to relinquish his fee.

Have you known, since you have been keeper of the prison, any and how many instances of persons remaining during a time, not being able to pay that fee?—I hardly know of a single instance of that; where they are so necessitated, I believe the prisoners have amongst themselves raised the sum; they have found it by some means by subscriptions among themselves.

But you have known prisoners so poor, that they have not been able to pay that fee?—Yes, I have.

Have you ever known any prisoner remain a day or two longer in consequence of not being able to pay, and afterwards getting it by subscription?—Yes, that has been the case.

What amount of debt must it be for a shilling?—The debt must not exceed 15*s.* for a shilling; if 20*s.* I believe it is eighteen-pence; or if it exceeds 15*s.* it is eighteen-

Mr. John Law.

eighteen-pence, I believe; and if it exceeds 20*s.* I believe it is two shillings and sixpence; if it exceeds 40*s.* I think it is three shillings; if it exceeds 60*s.* it is four shillings; and from 80*s.* to 100*s.* five shillings.

Are you able to tell us whether this is under the Act of Parliament for the recovery of Small Debts?—I am pretty certain it is; I have not seen the Act a long time; it was an Act in 1806, when the Court was made a £.5 Court.

Was that the £.5 Act?—The Court was then made a £.5 Court.

How long have you known any individual detained, not being able to pay the fee?—A day or two.

One hundred days is the longest period of confinement?—For one debt.

Will you state to the Committee, the days of confinement for the different amounts?—The least imprisonment for the smallest amount is twenty days, from one shilling to twenty inclusive; from twenty to forty shillings, is forty days; and from forty to sixty shillings, is sixty days; and above sixty shillings to 100 shillings, is 100 days.

How many prisoners have you now, and of each description?—I have a list of them here.

[*It was delivered in, and read as follows:*]

To the Committee of the Right Honourable the House of Commons; the state of the Borough Compter, the 11th day of March 1818.

Men	Debtors	28
Women	D°	2
Men	Felons committed for trial	5
Women	D° D°	1
Men	Fines, convicted of Felony	3
Women	D° D°	1
Men	Misdemeanors and assaults	4
Women	D° D°	3
Men	Vagrants	3
Women	D°	1
	TOTAL	51

John Law, Keeper.

What is the greatest number you have had at any one time since you have been keeper?—It was ninety-four, I think.

Including men and women?—Including all classes.

At the time you had that great number in custody, what was the description of prisoners?—Men debtors, forty; women ditto, five; men felons committed for trial, fifteen; women felons committed for trial, two; men, fines, convicted of felony, &c. two; women, fines, convicted of felony, &c. two; men, misdemeanors and assaults, thirteen; women, misdemeanors and assaults, thirteen; men vagrants, two; making a total of ninety-four.

How long has a regular attendance of a magistrate in the Borough Compter been adopted?—I think it was in July 1814.

Have you from that time had a great increase of prisoners?—Yes.

Of what description?—Men and women felons, misdemeanors, assaults, vagrants, and disorderly persons.

Have you been obliged to mix all classes of prisoners together?—No, not exactly so.

In what way have you classed them?—The men felons have always been kept by themselves, except when people have come in for assaults and misdemeanors, that I knew or supposed not to be honest characters, and then I would not suffer them to be put among the debtors.

Does the size of the prison afford you an opportunity of classing the prisoners in the manner in which they ought to be?—No, it does not.

You have only two yards for the use of the prisoners?—No.

One for the use of men felons; and the other, for debtors, male and female, and vagrants and misdemeanors?—Yes, and assaults and female felons.

Have you only one privy for the use of the whole?—Only one privy for those people just now mentioned.

So that the women are obliged to go through the men's yard to go to that privy?—Yes.

Mr. John Law.

Can you tell the Committee how many you have had in that yard at any one time?—In fine weather the yard has been extremely crowded.

But how many prisoners have you had in that part of the prison which has access to that yard?—From sixty to eighty.

Having all had access to that yard and that privy?—Yes.

Will you tell the Committee the size of the yard?—Nineteen feet by nineteen.

What is the greatest number of female prisoners you have had?—I think we had at one particular time about thirty; there were nearly twenty disorderly women brought in on one night.

Did they remain there any length of time?—No, they did not; the alderman discharged them all, but two or three.

Then that number were only there one night?—Only one night; they were brought in in the course of the night.

Are any means taken to prevent communication with the male prisoners and the females, in the day-time?—As much as possible; but it is not wholly prevented, as I caught one or two of the debtors in the women's ward after the Committee left it yesterday.

Will you state what means you take to prevent communication in the day-time?—No more than an injunction; I threaten to lock them up, which I do not know that I have power to do.

Do you lock the female criminals up in the day-time?—No, I do not; only when they let the male debtors go in among them, then I lock the door for the day as a punishment.

Was it not the practice at one time to lock up the female prisoners the whole day, except for two hours?—That used to be done, but it was considered very unhealthy.

So that there is no alternative between exposing the prison to disease, and indiscriminate communication between the male and female prisoners, if the parties consented to it?—No, not in the day-time.

How many rooms are there appropriated to the female prisoners?—Two.

Is any attempt made to class the prisoners according to the nature of their offences?—Yes, the female debtors occupy in general a ward by themselves, and felons and misdemeanors another.

Where do you place the female vagrants?—Among the felons and misdemeanors in general.

Are they ever placed with the debtors?—Sometimes.

The untried and the convicted are placed together?—Yes.

What has been the state of the health of the prison for the last two or three years, since you have been so crowded?—It has been in general healthy beyond what one could expect from the crowded state it has been in; I have the surgeon's books here.

Is there any infirmary?—No.

Have any complaints been made to you, by females of a better description, of the scenes which necessarily must have taken place under their eye, that is, an indiscriminate communication between the male and female prisoners?—So far as language went it has been very bad indeed, and has been complained of to me by others, who have been more decent and orderly.

Have they ever made any other complaint further than with regard to the language which has been used in their hearing?—No.

Has there ever been any complaint on the subject of there being only one privy, to which they must pass through the yard where the men are?—No, there has not; there have been some decent people who have found it exceedingly irksome to them, though they have not mentioned it to me; in fact they will find some other convenience.

They are exposed to insults from the male prisoners?—Yes.

Have you ever seen or heard yourself, any improper conduct on the part of the men to the women, in going through the yard?—Yes, I have.

Have you taken any steps at the time to prevent it by any punishment?—No more than remonstrate with them upon the impropriety of it.

Are you certain that never at any time a man has passed the night in the women's ward?—I am certain of it; it could not possibly be unless they got in by violence, or had one of my keys.

Have you ever been obliged in warm weather in summer time, when the prison was crowded, to leave the doors of the sleeping wards open at night?—That rests with the debtors themselves; if they find themselves too much heated it is necessary they should keep the windows open.

Mr. John Law

Do you not lock the debtors up in their room of a night?—No, I do not; on account of there being only one privy, to which they must have access.

When the female wards were crowded, have the doors ever been left open in warm weather, to admit fresh air?—In the day-time, but never of a night.

Then you are quite sure there has been at no time whatever the doors of the females ward left open of a night?—I am sure of it.

Do you lock up yourself?—Very frequently I do, but not generally.

Your turnkey does it?—Yes.

May not the turnkey then, without your knowledge, have left the doors open?—No; I think I have had people I could always depend upon, good moral men.

They were men you had a good opinion of, and therefore you cannot think they ever once did it?—Yes; it is my orders to the prisoners within, that they shall always keep the doors shut, and they have a bolt inside for the purpose.

Are the windows of the female ward so constructed that men cannot get into them?—They cannot; there are iron bars about four or five inches apart.

Will you state how long it is since you have been in the habit of locking up the female prisoners the whole day, except for an hour or two?—I think for these two years I have not locked them up of a day, unless I catch them intruding with the men, then I lock them up immediately, generally for the whole of the day.

By way of punishment?—Yes.

How long did you continue the practice of locking-up all day, except for an hour or two?—It continued but a very little while, to the best of my recollection.

Was it in consequence of a report of a Committee of this House, of the notice they had taken of the abuses of the prison, that you resorted to that practice of locking them up for the whole day, except for an hour or two?—No.

They had the liberty of going down at any time, before that practice was adopted, the Committee understand?—Yes, except at nights.

Did you never receive any directions from the magistrates upon that subject?—Yes, I received a direction from Sir John Eamer when he visited the prison, to give them all air as much as possible, and to keep the place clean.

Upon that consideration you kept their doors more unlocked?—Probably it might be from that.

What was the reason for adopting the more rigorous confinement of the women, which seems to have taken place between your first and second examination before the Committees in 1814 and 1815?—It was merely for the use of the privy, that I admitted of the doors being unlocked of a day.

Why did you afterwards lock them up the whole day, except for two hours?—At intervals the doors were unlocked, as well as the two hours.

Was it in consequence of any gross immorality that you had remarked?—In all probability it was; I considered it so at that time.

Will you state the allowance to the prisoners per day?—Fourteen ounces of good wheaten bread, white bread, and two pounds of meat a week to each prisoner, a pound on Wednesday, and a pound on Saturday.

What bedding?—They have a straw bed, and two rugs each.

Is any clothing allowed them?—Only in particular cases, which I purchase by order of the magistrates.

When a person comes in, very bare of clothing, or without shoes or stockings, you give them to him?—Sometimes they come in literally naked, such as vagrants; but I had a debtor come in a short time since, swarming with vermin, and the other debtors destroyed some of his clothes.

How long since is that?—I do not think it is more than three months since.

What was done?—The other debtors burnt his clothes, they were so full of vermin, and he remained without any, wrapped in a rug; I made it known to the Alderman, and he said it would be necessary for me to purchase a few things for him.

Do you in other instances, where you see a person in that deplorable state, purchase clothes, and charge for them to the Court of Aldermen?—Yes.

In case a prisoner is brought in, in the state you describe, filthy and lousy, have you any separate place to put him in?—If I have a spare cell, I put them there.

Supposing the prison to be tolerably full, have you any place to put them in?—None but the cells and the sleeping wards of the debtors, and I crowd the rest to make room for them.

Have you any infirmary in your prison, on the male or the female side of the prison?—No.

Mr. John Law.

In case a prisoner has a fever, have you any separate place to put him in?—No, unless it is one of the cells.

The Committee saw a room twenty-two feet long by ten wide, could a sick prisoner be placed in that with the others sleeping there?—So long as it was considered not infectious by the surgeon.

Do you ever remember a case of the Typhus fever being brought in, and of the person sleeping in that room?—There was a case of that kind sometime back.

At the end of December last, had you several persons ill of fever?—Yes; three persons.

In consequence of that illness were they removed to any separate room?—They were removed to a room that was occupied by female felons and misdemeanors, but it so happened at that time that we had nobody in there for felony.

You had a room which you appropriated expressly for that purpose?—Yes.

And they were kept separate?—Yes.

Was that done as soon as the surgeon reported the necessity of it?—Yes.

Are any means taken to clean the rugs or bedding?—In the summer season we take the straw out, perhaps twice or three times a year, or oftener, and scrub the ticks.

Did not several prisoners contract the itch once?—They have had it there at different times, but I do not believe they contracted it in the prison, but brought it in with them.

Did Mr. Buxton, after his visits to your prison, read over to you his minutes which he had made, and tell you he was about to publish?—No, he did not tell me he was going to publish; he sent to me at the Town Hall; Sir John Eamer gave him his room, and he read over the minutes to me, and I corrected some things he had put down.

And the remainder you considered he was right in?—Yes.

Have you seen it since it was printed?—No I have not.

In case the prison is crowded, do you admit the children of prisoners?—Yes, always.

Do they sleep there and remain all night?—It is very seldom any of the children sleep there.

But they remain there a great part of the day?—Yes, they are in and out continually.

Do you think that right, when the gaol is so crowded?—I have no orders to the contrary.

How do you admit visitors to the felons and others; what are your regulations in that respect?—We admit them from eight in the morning till about five in the afternoon, and then we call, All out.

Do you admit them all into the prison?—Yes, except disorderly girls, and then they only speak through the doors.

Do you allow the male felons to receive female visitors?—They do at times, their wives, and mothers, and sisters.

Are they allowed to go into the ward?—Yes.

Do those persons ever bring in spirits?—Not to my knowledge.

Are they searched?—They are frequently searched.

By whom?—By the turnkey and myself, if we have any suspicion.

There is no woman who takes charge of that duty?—No.

Are the prisoners searched when they come in?—No.

Or their persons cleansed, or their clothes fumigated in any way?—No.

Thomas Fowell Buxton Esquire, again called in; and Examined.

T. F. Buxton, Esq.

THE Committee understand, you are a Member of a Committee for the Improvement of the Prison Discipline, and the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders?—I am.

And that your attention has been principally directed to the Borough Compter?—It has.

Have you visited the prison within the last two or three months?—Constantly; and I found the prison in so lamentable a state, that I thought it right to publish an account of it. I hold this in my hand; and I submit it to the Committee, in the hope that they will allow me to prove it, fact by fact, and paragraph by paragraph, by testimony independent of my own. I can do so, and I am desirous of doing so, because the circumstances related by me are so strange and so shocking, that they will hardly be credited without incontrovertible proof.

Will

T. F. Buxton, Esq.

Will you give the Committee your own opinion of the Borough Compter?—The book I hold in my hand contains every thing I wish to state; I will therefore read from it those parts which appear to me to be necessary. "This prison belongs to the city of London, and its jurisdiction extends over five parishes. On entrance, you come to the male felons ward and yard, in which are both the tried and the untried, those in chains and those without them, boys and men, persons for petty offences and for the most atrocious felonies, for simple assault, for being disorderly, for small thefts, for issuing bad notes, for forgery, and for robbery." Each of these individual cases I have seen myself.

Then there is no classification whatever?—There is a certain degree of classification, the debtors are separated from the felons.

There is no classification as to age or crimes?—No; any further than, I believe, the misdemeanors are occasionally separated from the others, at the discretion of the governor, which he exercises very judiciously. When I first went, "They were employed in some kind of gaming, and they said, they had nothing else to do."

What kind of gaming?—They had a kind of dice board; I did not understand what sort of game it was. "You next enter a yard, nineteen feet square; this is the only airing place for male debtors and vagrants, female debtors, prostitutes, misdemeanants, and criminals, and for their children and friends."

"On my first visit, the debtors were all collected together up stairs; this was their day-room, bed-room, workshop, kitchen, and chapel. On my second visit, they spent the day and the night in the room below. At the third, both the room above and that below were filled; the length of each of these rooms, exclusive of a recess, in which were tables and a fire-place, is twenty feet; its breadth is three feet six inches for a passage, and six feet for the bed. In this space, twenty feet long and six wide, on eight straw beds, with sixteen rugs, and a piece of timber for a bolster, twenty prisoners had slept, side by side, the preceding night. I maintained, that it was physically impossible; but the prisoners explained away the difficulty, by saying, they slept edge-ways; amongst these twenty, was one in a very deplorable condition; he had been taken from a sick bed, and brought there; he had his mattrass to himself, for none would share it; and indeed my senses convinced me, that sleeping near him must be sufficiently offensive." I never saw a man in a more dreadful state; he had been there, I think, two or three months; he had been taken out of his bed for an arrest; his landlord was there, and I asked him whether any creditor had been so cruel as to take him out of his bed ill as he was, and send him there; and he said it was so.

Do you know whether he was a Court of Conscience debtor, or a Sheriff's Court debtor?—I am not certain which it was; I think a larger debt than those from the Court of Conscience.

What was his complaint?—They said he had a very bad complaint in his bowels, and he used to go to the water-closet twenty or thirty times in a day.

Was he visited by the surgeon?—I have every reason to believe he was; I heard of Mr. Box being there frequently, and of course he saw him. "Almost every man looked ill, and almost every one who had been here any time said, he had had a severe illness; we were all immediately struck with their squalid appearance. It may perhaps be supposed that we were duped by our imaginations, that observing the closeness and want of exercise to which they were subjected, and ascribing to these causes their usual effect, we concluded without sufficient examination, that the prisoners must be unhealthy; the following fact, for the accuracy of which I appeal to my respectable companions (Mrs. Fry, St. Mildred's-court, Miss Sanderson, Old Jewry, Members of the Ladies Committee of Newgate, Mr. Crawford, Secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, and Mr. Wood, an active member of the Philadelphia Society for Prisoners) will evince that I describe, not merely what I expected to see, but what we actually saw. I called my friends together and requested their attention; I then addressed myself to one of the prisoners at another part of the room, to whom we had not previously spoken, and said, "I perceive by your appearance you have not been here long;"—"only nine days," was his answer;—to another, "I fear you have been here sometime;"—"yes, Sir, three months;"—to another, "you have been here very long, I should suppose;"—"nearly nine months." In fact, I pointed out five, and from their looks predicted nearly the period of their confinement, nor was I once deceived.

"On my first visit, we observed in one of the cells a lad in bed, and seemingly very ill with typhus fever, the window was closed, and the reason given was, that the air would be dangerous to him; yet the preceding night, two other prisoners had

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slept with him in a room seven feet by nine; the three were James McIntosh, charged with felony, Thomas Williams, with stealing a piece of gingham, and Jeremiah Noble, with an assault; and no alteration was intended, neither indeed was any possible."

"We conceived, that to place others for the night in this corrupt and infected air, close by the source of that infection, was inevitably to taint them with disease; this conjecture was unhappily verified, for at my next coming, I observed in the list of those who had been seized with fever, the names of Thomas Williams and Jeremiah Noble." Then I give some extracts from the surgeon's book, which show, that Jeremiah Noble and Thomas Williams were well, but after sleeping with him they were seized with the same complaint.

Is there an infirmary in the prison?—There is not. "When a debtor is taken ill, he is separated from the others by a blanket hung up; but how effectual that separation must be which takes place in a room twenty feet in length, in which twenty persons sleep side by side, will require no peculiar sagacity to determine; when a criminal is ill, however infectious may be his complaint, however offensive, however requiring quiet, there is generally no separation at all." Then I give a quotation from Mr. Box's observations on the prison, and proceed.

"I fear I shall hardly be credited when I assure my readers, that as yet I have not touched upon that point in this prison, which I consider the most lamentable, the proximity between the male debtors and the female prisoners: Their doors are about seven feet asunder, on the same floor, these are open in the day-time, and the men are forbidden to go into the women's ward; but after the turnkey left us, they confessed that they constantly went in and out, and there is no punishment for doing so." In fact, the governor stated to me, that the doors were very often left open at night, and he had stated so to Mr. Hoare at a preceding time; but before I published this statement, I took it to the governor and read it to him, that I might not fall into any inaccuracy; and he then said I was mistaken in that respect, and therefore I suppressed the fact.

"There is at least one scene of gross and revolting indelicacy, which no female can escape; there is but one yard and one privy for men and women, and every woman must pass through this yard. The turnkey on the one hand, and the more respectable of the debtors on the other, told me that it was always an occasion for course jests, and "for a piece of fun." In the next page, I quote an observation made by a gentleman of the name of James Williams, a magistrate; he says, "I am compelled to lament the utter impossibility of classification, to prevent the union of persons charged with all offences; and moreover to notice the great impropriety of female felons being introduced in the day, not only to female but to male debtors, having but one yard for the joint recreation, and for necessary purposes." The date of this observation is July 2d, 1817. "The date of this observation is very remarkable, it is the last which appears in the visiting magistrate's book; thus, this prison within less than five minutes walk of London Bridge, a prison which outrages every feeling of common humanity, which is really shocking and melancholy and disgraceful, a prison in which the period of each man's captivity may be judged by the degree of langour and sickness visible in his countenance; a prison, the regulations of which openly violate the law of the land, and are directly the reverse of the rules recommended by the Committee of Aldermen; a prison, in which I have witnessed as much of what is truly deplorable and dismal as it was ever my misfortune to behold, in which it is difficult to determine whether the vice it encourages is or is not surpassed by the measure of misery it inflicts—this prison, has not, as far as it appears, been visited by one single official person capable of redressing the slightest of its atrocious evils, for a period of more than six months."

"The case of one man struck me much; he was found in the most pitiable state in the streets, and apprehended as a vagrant; he was at first placed with the debtors, but he was so filthy and so covered with vermin, (to use the expression of the turnkey, "he was so lousy,") that his removal was solicited. I saw him lying on a straw bed, as I believed at the point of death, without a shirt, inconceivably dirty, so weak as to be almost unable to articulate, and so offensive as to render remaining a minute with him quite intolerable; close by his side four other untried prisoners had slept the preceding night, inhaling the stench from this mass of putrefaction, hearing his groans, breathing the steam from his corrupted lungs, and covered with myriads of lice from his rags of clothing; of these his wretched companions, three were subsequently pronounced, by the verdict of a jury, "not guilty," and of these one was Noble, whose case I have before described.—The day after their discharge I found

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I found the two who were convicted almost undressed; on asking the reason, they said their clothes were under the pump to get rid of the vermin received from the vagrant; his bed had been burnt by order of the gaoler, his clothes had been cut off; and the turnkey said, one of his companions had brought him his garter, on which he counted upwards of forty lice."

What were the number of prisoners confined in this gaol?—I think about sixty, the whole of the prisoners.

Night charges and all?—There was only one night charge.

What is this prison appropriated for?—I do not exactly know what description of prisoners; there seem to be almost all descriptions.

Do you think the prison sufficiently large?—By no means; I think that every thing is done by Mr. Law that can be done; I think him an excellent gaoler.

It is entirely owing to the want of room then?—It is.

The airing-ground is not large enough?—No, not by any means; it is only twenty feet square, and there are sometimes ninety prisoners there.

What state did you find the clothing of the prisoners in?—There were several of them extremely ragged; I do not recollect any particular case except this vagrant.

Do you know what provisions they have?—They have fourteen ounces of white bread per day, and two pounds of meat per week.

How was the prison, dirty or clean?—It was remarkably clean, considering the number there.

There was no work?—In some instances there was; wherever Mr. Law can get them work, he does; but generally speaking, the gaol is so crowded they cannot work; I asked those who were at work if they considered it any advantage, and they said the very greatest; from my going so frequently, they have thought I have been a person who had some authority, and I have been petitioned repeatedly that they might be allowed to work.

Mr. *William Hutcheson Box*, again called in; and Examined.

Mr. W. H. Box.

YOU have stated before to the Committee, that your attendance on this prison is included in your appointment to the other prisons?—Yes.

In what state is the Borough Compter as to health?—It has been unhealthy.

What is the greatest number of patients you have had in a day?—I never remember more than five or six at the utmost; I do not think the average is more than five.

What has been the nature of the disease?—We have had occasionally fever, but not often.

There is no infirmary?—None.

Then at the times of those fevers, where have the patients been placed?—I placed them last Christmas in the upper ward appropriated to the women; there were very few female prisoners, and I removed them and placed the fever cases there.

There were cases of typhus fever at that time, M^c^Intosh, Noble, and Williams?—There were three cases of fever, but reported neither malignant or infectious.

How long was M^c^Intosh affected with fever before it made its appearance in the other two?—M^c^Intosh was taken ill with fever on the 10th, and reported convalescent on the 17th; the entry of the 11th, says, "visited the prisoners, M^c^Intosh is no better, his fever continues, but not of a malignant or infectious nature;" Williams, Noble, Rawlins and Carter, were moved the night they were taken to one of the cells; but at that time it was impossible to state what the nature of their case was, because the fact is, that they also had all of them the venereal disease, and that very bad; I am now speaking merely from memory, at two or three months distance.

From the commencement of M^c^Intosh's fever, how long did he sleep in the same cell with the other two persons?—He was convalescent on the 17th of December, and not attended afterwards; they were all taken ill the night after Christmas-day; they were moved from the felons day-room to one of the cells, and there staid till the 30th; I perceived them then getting worse; and I have said here, on the 30th "visited the prison, Williams, Noble and Rawlins have the venereal disease and considerable fever;" but M^c^Intosh was never moved; he was in the day-room with them all the while he was ill; M^c^Intosh was well nine days before these other two were taken ill.

Do you think that Rawlins, Williams and Noble, caught the fever from M^c^Intosh?—Decidedly not.

Mr. *W. H. Box.*

Was the fever, with which they were affected, of the same description as the fever of M^c^Intosh?—Certainly not.

Were they all taken ill much about the same time?—They were all taken with shivering fits and sickness within the same hour, all three of them, and with a fever of a different character. Here is my entry of the 30th; I have said, "it is absolutely necessary, that the four prisoners suffering from fever, should be separated from the rest; that one of the female wards should be appropriated for that purpose, and that proper nourishment be provided for them."

Who were the four feverish patients?—Williams, Noble, Rawlins, and Carter.

Were proper things provided for them?—Yes, immediately.

Had they every thing that was necessary for them?—Yes, and immediately got well almost: on the first of January, which is only two days after, I have stated, "the prisoners continue to improve, except Williams, who is in a dreadful state from the venereal disease; he must have a pint of porter daily."

Have you read the account given by Mr. Buxton of these cases?—I saw the book the other day, but did not take any particular notice of what he said on these cases; the patients were all reported convalescent on the 7th of January, which was only a week afterwards, and if it had been typhus fever, it would have been impossible they should have been convalescent at that time.

Therefore, in your opinion, none of these persons had the typhus fever?—Certainly not; I have never seen the typhus fever in the prison.

You have a power to provide for the prisoners in this gaol, in the same manner as in the others?—Yes, the regulations are general for the three prisons, to do as I please in providing nourishment.

Have you frequently observed persons affected with the itch, in that prison?—Yes, very often.

More frequently than in the other prisons, under your superintendence?—No, not at all; I do not think there is so much as in Newgate: on the 5th of January, I see a note in my book, "visited the prison; some of the prisoners have contracted the itch."

Do you mean by that, that they had contracted the itch since they came to the prison, or, that they had brought it in with them?—With attention itch is of no consequence, because the moment they use the ointment well, it is no longer infectious.

Have you frequently, during the time you have attended this prison, found the want of an infirmary?—Yes, I have mentioned it several times, and the honourable Chairman, when Lord Mayor, called a committee on the subject, but some difficulty arose.

On the 5th of January last, do you remember a vagrant being brought in?—There was a vagrant brought in, in a very bad state.

Was he filthy and covered with vermin?—That is a mistake in the date, it was on the 28th of December; I was there on the 5th of January and every intervening day; and there is no entry of a vagrant being ill; but on the 28th, I enter "visited the prison, the patients going on well; a vagrant, James Marshall, brought into the prison in a bad state of health, with a large ulcer in the leg, which has been attended to;" he went out directly again.

Was this vagrant lousy?—Yes; in a shocking state.

Do you know whether he slept by the side of four untried prisoners?—I am not aware of that.

What was the state of his clothes when you saw him?—Very bad indeed.

Was there a bad stench from his person?—We were obliged to wash him; and I believe some of his clothes were burnt.

Have you any thing to state as to an infirmary?—I think an infirmary indispensable to prisons.

Is it practicable in the present state of this prison?—I think not.

Mr. *Henry Woodthorpe*, jun. called in; and Examined.

Mr. *H. Woodthorpe, J^r^.*

THE Committee understand you are deputy town clerk of the city of London?—I am.

Do you know the original establishment of the Borough Compter, and what has been done by the City lately in respect of it?—I can only speak correctly at this moment to the period while I have been at Guildhall, and how I have always considered it. The particular attention of the Aldermen of London was first drawn to it about the beginning of the year 1814, when Sir William Domville, baronet, then Lord

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Lord Mayor, informed the court, that finding the prisoners in the Borough Compter had no other allowance than a twopenny loaf each per day, he had, after consulting with some of the Aldermen, sent an order to the keeper requiring him to provide for every prisoner in his custody, fourteen ounces of wheaten bread daily; and two pounds of meat, free of bone, weekly; and also to provide coals for their use; which orders were approved by the court, and directed to be continued.

The Borough Compter at this time was no more than what its name implies, a mere compter or prison, attached to the office of bailiff, where, with very few exceptions, no other prisoners than poor debtors, in the custody of the bailiff from the Court of Conscience or Requests, were confined, and was not considered at all to be under the orders and directions of the Aldermen of London; but the then state of it coming to their knowledge, they took it into consideration, and the office of surgeon of the City compters, having become vacant by the death of Mr. Hodgson, the Court of Aldermen, in the appointment of Mr. Thomas Wadd to that situation, made it a condition that he should visit and attend to the prisoners in the Borough Compter, which he did until he was appointed to the New Debtor's prison, when it was made a part of the duty of the surgeon of Newgate; previously to the appointment of Mr. Wadd, the only medical attendance at that prison, was such as might be occasionally called in under the directions of the bailiff, when it was found needful; and I believe the gentleman generally applied to was the parish surgeon or apothecary where the Compter is situate.

On the 5th July 1814, a Committee which was appointed to consider the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons relative to the gaols of the city of London, and to report what regulations were necessary to be made in respect thereof, having taken a view of the Borough Compter, and made sundry inquiries in relation thereto, reported, amongst other regulations, which more immediately applied to the gaols within the City:—

"That it is not fit for the keeper of the Borough Compter to be an officer of the Court of Requests in Southwark, but that the office should be filled by a person unconnected with the said court, and paid by a competent salary out of the profits of the office of high bailiff of the Borough of Southwark:

"That the chaplain of the Compters do perform divine service at the Borough Compter once every Sunday:

"That the garnish of two shillings and sixpence, paid to the keeper of the said Compter, be abolished:

"That the present door to the women's ward there be closed, and an access made to a small yard, by which two court yards will be afforded to separate the men from the women."

The Report being approved by the Court of Aldermen, the regulations therein suggested were ordered to take place forthwith, and amongst the persons and officers upon whom the orders were served was the Bailiff of the Borough of Southwark; and on the 29th of the same month July, another Report was delivered in by the same Committee, wherein they state that they had been attended by Sir Watkin Lewes, high bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, and the orders of the court in respect of the keeper of the Borough gaol having been read to him, he assured them that the wishes of the court should be attended to by him forthwith.

The inhabitants of the Borough of Southwark had for a long time, by petition and otherwise, made frequent applications to the Court of Common Council, and on the 23d of September 1814, upon a petition from them, containing a variety of matter, and amongst other things, praying that the magistracy of the city of London in Southwark might be restored, it was referred to the Committee for General Purposes to examine the allegations, and to report; and on the 20th October following they made a Report, in which they state, that in order to assist as much and as early as possible in some of the objects and wishes of the said inhabitants, so far at least as might be in the power of the court, and might appear advisable, they recommend that the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, in whom the power of appointing a justice of the Bridge Yard is vested, should be requested at all times thereafter to appoint to that office an alderman who had served the office of Lord Mayor, (those aldermen only being legally competent to execute the office of a magistrate in the town and borough of Southwark, without the interference of some other power or authority,) and that the alderman so appointed should remain in his office of justice of the Bridge Yard, and so long as he should continue in his office of an alderman, and no longer; and that it was also highly desirable that one other alderman who

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should have served the office of Lord Mayor, should attend whenever necessary, with the said justice of the Bridge Yard, to perform all acts in the said town and borough of Southwark, as are required by law to be administered and done by two magistrates; and the Report being agreed to was ordered to be laid before the Court of Aldermen, and Sir John Eamer was appointed to that situation agreeably to the recommendation of that Report.

On the 24th of November 1814, the Court of Common Council referred it to the Committee for General Purposes "to consider and report whether any and what sum of money out of the revenues arising from the estates in St. George's Fields and the Borough of Southwark, shall be annually placed in the hands of the Chamberlain, at the disposal of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, during the pleasure of the Court of Common Council, to enable the said Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen to discharge the expenses of providing and establishing a proper and efficient magistracy in and for the Town and Borough of Southwark; and also for the expenses of the compter or gaol in the said Borough." A Report from that Committee was made to the Common Council on the 14th of April 1815, but which was confined to the establishment of an efficient magistracy, that had been so frequently petitioned for by the inhabitants of the Borough; and the sum of 1,300*l.* was recommended and ordered to be annually placed in the Chamber for that especial purpose, and to be apportioned as mentioned in that Report; viz. "That an annual allowance should be made to the magistrate, appointed by the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, to do constant duty in the Borough of Southwark, of five hundred pounds, exclusive of one hundred pounds per annum allowed to the justice of the Bridge-yard in lieu of his residence:

"That a clerk shall be appointed by the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, with an annual allowance of three hundred and fifteen pounds:

"That two marshalmen should be appointed by the Court of Common Council, with an annual allowance between them of one hundred and five pounds:

"That a housekeeper should be appointed by the Committee, for letting the Bridge House estates, who should be the messenger, with an annual allowance of fifty pounds:

"That a sum of money should be allotted, amounting to about two hundred and thirty pounds annually, to pay from time to time as it may be required, the expenses of providing stationary, printing, coals, candles, and other necessaries for the office to be established in the said Borough."

On the 27th of June 1815, the Committee for General Purposes, to whom it had previously been referred, to examine the petition of Mr. John Law, Keeper of the Borough Compter, for an allowance in consequence of having been deprived of his situation in the Court of Requests, and not having received any salary from the Bailiff, reported to the Common Council, as follows: "That in addition to the present yearly sum of one thousand three hundred pounds deposited in the Chamberlain's hands by the Bridge-masters, out of the revenues arising from the estates in St. George's Fields, the further sum of two hundred and fifty pounds should be in like manner deposited by them, the same to commence at Christmas 1814, to enable the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen to pay the salary and expenses of the Keeper of the said Compter; as from recent regulations that have taken place in the Borough, it appeared to them requisite that he should employ two assistants, who should be severally paid the sum of fifty pounds per annum, in full for their services; and that the remainder thereof should be paid to him by way of salary for his services; that neither himself, nor his assistants, should be allowed to take or receive any fees or garnish money upon any account or pretence whatever."

On the 27th of June 1816, the Common Council directed the Bridge House Committee to examine the state of the Borough Compter, and to report their opinion what is most fitting to be done thereto, to render the same efficient for all its purposes. The foregoing Order took place upon the motion of Mr. Alderman Wood, then Lord Mayor, which was made in consequence of the increased number of prisoners in that compter, arising from the exercise of the efficient magistracy in the Borough. The Bridge House Committee not having made any report in pursuance of the before-mentioned order, the attention of the Court of Aldermen was drawn to that compter in January 1817, and a Report from the Committee of Aldermen upon the subject, was sent to the Bridgehouse Committee, who resolved "That they were not empowered to enter into the consideration of the matters contained in the said Report, without the previous sanction of the Court of Common Council;" in consequence of which, the Lord Mayor, *Mr. H. Woodthorpe, J^{r}.*

Mayor, by desire of the Court of Aldermen, laid the same, on the 23d January 1817, before the Court of Common Council, as follows:

"To the Right honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, of your committee appointed to consider all matters relating to the gaols of this city, do certify, That amongst other things, we have taken a view of the Borough Compter, attended by Mr. John Holmes, the deputy bailiff of the Borough, the clerk of this City's works, and Mr. William Hutchinson Box, the surgeon, and notwithstanding the present crowded state of the said compter, the same appeared to us to be in clean and decent order:

"That on our said view, being attended by the churchwardens, overseers and principal inhabitants of the parish of Saint Olave Southwark, together with Mr. Thomas Edward Sherwood, their vestry clerk, who presented us a memorial relative to the increase of disorderly persons in the said parish, the present crowded state of the Borough Compter, and the want of management and discipline therein; we inspected the plan produced by the clerk of the works, of the site of the said compter, and of the property adjoining, belonging to the Bridgehouse estates, and took a view of the same; and we are of opinion, it is highly expedient and necessary to enlarge the Borough Compter, and finding that in letting the said property adjoining, a judicious reservation has been made by the committee, of Bridgehouse estates, in order to afford further accommodation to the compter if the same should be found necessary; we are of opinion that the committee for letting the Bridgehouse estates, should as soon as possible, possess themselves of the said reserved ground, to be added to the said compter, as circumstances may require and will admit, and that a boundary wall should be forthwith erected to inclose the whole; all which we submit to the judgment of this honourable Court, this 16th day of October 1816.

Matthew Wood, Mayor.
James Shaw.
Samuel Goodbehere."

The Common Council immediately referred the said Report to the Bridgehouse Committee, who were also directed to confer with the aldermen. Conferences did take place, and on the 13th June 1817, the Committee not having made any report, Mr. Alderman Wood, in his place as Lord Mayor, again moved the Court of Common Council, and the Bridgehouse committee were directed to report forthwith, on the reference to them of the 27th June 1816, relating to the Borough Compter; and the Committee for General Purposes were also directed to report relative to the expenses of the said compter.

On the 8th July following, the Bridgehouse committee presented a Report relating to the funds under their management as not being in their opinion applicable to the purposes of the Borough Compter; the consideration of which report was adjourned, and the Committee for General Purposes presented their Report on the 13th February last, with the Report of the City solicitor upon the subject, stating, that the revenues arising from the estates in St. George's Fields, may be applied to that purpose.

[*Printed copies of the Reports were delivered in, and read as follow:*]

"To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

"We whose names are hereunto subscribed, your Committee for letting the Bridgehouse estates, do certify, That by an Order of your honourable Court, of the twenty-third day of January last, it was refered to us to consider a Report of the Court of Aldermen, appointed to consider all matters relating to the gaols of this City for the enlargement of the Borough Compter, and to confer with the Committee of Aldermen thereon.—We referred the same to a sub-committee, who have since made their Report hereto annexed; and we agreeing with the sub-committee in their said Report, submit the same to the judgment of this Honourable Court. Dated this eighth day of July 1817.

Wm. John Reeves.
Benjamin Bovill.
Wm. Rawlins.
Joseph Humpleby.
James Davies.
J. Daker.
John Ashlin.
Errington Paxton.
Tho^{s} Conway.
Stephen Hubberton.
Tho^{s} Price.
Theop. Hearsey.
John Pearson.
Rob^{t} Elliott.
W. S. Angell.
Jn^{o} Elliott.
Matt. P. Lucas."

Mr. *H. Woodthorpe, Jr.*

"To the Worshipful Committee for letting the Bridge House Estates.

Pursuant to your order of the 18th day of February last, we have viewed the Borough Compter, and the ground and buildings adjoining thereto, and conferred with the Committee of the Court of Aldermen appointed to consider all matters relating to the gaols of this City, respecting their Report for the enlargement of the Borough Compter; and being informed at such conference, that it was the opinion and intention of that Court, that the ground proposed to be added to the site of the Compter, for the purpose of enlarging the same, together with the buildings thereon, should be given up or granted to the City, without any rent or other consideration being paid for the same, and that the expense of inclosing the whole ground, with a boundary wall, of enlarging the present Compter, and of erecting any other buildings on the said ground, should be paid and discharged out of the Bridge House estates; we considered the subject deserving of our most serious attention and investigation, insamuch as any hasty and immature resolution, in compliance with the wishes of the Court of Aldermen (however expedient and laudable their ultimate views and purposes may and are considered by us to be) would establish a principle, which, if once admitted by your worshipful committee, might in progress of time be attended with very great expense and important consequences, and be not only injurious to the Bridge House estates, but to the credit and dignity of the Corporation. Under this impression we considered it necessary to inquire into the tenure and constitution of the Bridge House estates and to consider the several charters by which the jurisdiction of the City over the Borough of Southwark was granted; and various proceedings of the Court of Common Council and of this worshipful committee in relation thereto.

We find upon inspection of a book of antient grants, the rentals of the Bridge House, and the Bridge Master's accounts, that all the lands (and amongst others the site of the Borough Compter, and the ground proposed to be added thereto) which were denominated Bridge House estates previously to the year 1550 (when the lands in St. George's Fields were purchased) were granted or devised to, or otherwise became vested in the City, expressly upon trust for the support, maintenance, and repair of London Bridge, or had been purchased out of the rents and profits of those estates; of the produce of established tolls and customs, created for the exigencies of the bridge; and of contributions by briefs, voluntary alms, benefactions and legacies, given and bequeathed for the same purpose; and we find that the City of London first obtained jurisdiction in the Borough of Southwark, by charter from Edward III. A. D. 1327, which was granted (as therein stated) upon the petition of the citizens of London, alleging that felons, thieves, &c. who in the City had committed offences, privily departed therefrom into Southwark, where they could not be attached by the ministers of the City.

This jurisdiction was confirmed by the charter of Edward IV. A. D. 1462, which was granted (as therein is stated) for the purpose of taking away, and utterly abolishing, all doubts, controversies, and dissentions, respecting the use and exercise of the liberties and franchises intended to be granted to the City. In this charter those rights, liberties and franchises are particularly defined, which was not done in the preceding charter. No pecuniary consideration appears to have been given for either of these charters.

The jurisdiction granted by Kings Edward III, and IV, was enlarged and made more efficient by the charter of 4 Edward VI, A. D. 1551; and upon this charter the subject in discussion principally turns. It contains two grants. By the first, the king, in consideration of six hundred and forty-seven pounds, two shillings and one penny, paid by the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the City of London (which was paid out of the Bridge House Funds) gave and granted to them,

> Several messuages or tenements and closes of ground in Newington, Saint George's Fields and Lambeth, therein particularly described, together with the lordship and manor of Southwark, with the messuages, rights, members and appurtenances thereto belonging, and several yearly quit rents, &c.

By the second grant in this charter, the king, in consideration of five hundred marks, or three hundred and thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, paid by the said mayor and commonalty and citizens (which sum was also paid out of the Bridge House Funds) granted to the City the same jurisdiction in Southwark as they had previously exercised under the charters of Edward III, and IV, together with several additional franchises, privileges, and advantages, reserving to the crown an

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an ancient farm rent of ten pounds per annum, which had also been reserved in the former charters, and which has been always paid out of the City's cash.

Having thus endeavoured to state, fairly and concisely, the tenure and constitution of the Bridge House estates, and the several charters by which the City's jurisdiction in the Borough of Southwark was obtained, we consider it proper to state the grounds which appear to favour the City's right to apply the rents and profits of the Bridge House lands in Saint George's Fields, for the purposes mentioned in the Report of the Committee of Aldermen, together with our observations thereon.

It may be advanced in support of that right,

Firstly, That the several sums of money given for that charter, are therein expressly stated to have been paid by the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the City of London.

Secondly, That the charter does not state that the lands in Saint George's Fields are granted to the City, in trust, for the maintenance and support of London Bridge; and,

Thirdly, That as certain duties and estates are granted to the City by the same charter, the revenue arising from the estates should specifically defray the expenses incurred in executing the duties.

In answer to which, and with reference to the first position,—That the monies given for the charter are therein expressly stated to have been paid by the mayor and commonalty and citizens, we find, upon examination of the Bridge Masters accounts, and the rentals of the Bridge House estates, that such sums of money, amounting together to nine hundred and eighty pounds eight shillings and nine-pence, were paid by the Bridge Masters out of Bridge House funds; that the rents of the lands conveyed by the charter, then amounting to twenty-six pounds sixteen shillings one penny and one farthing per annum, were first entered in the Bridge Masters accounts, in the year 1554; and that the Bridge Masters have, from that distant period to the present time (a space of more than 250 years) been in the uninterrupted receipt thereof.

And we find upon inspecting various proceedings of the Court of Common Council, and of your Committee, that these lands and the rents and profits thereof, have been always considered and applied by the court as parcel of the Bridge House Estates, in the same manner as the more ancient estates devised to or otherwise vested in the City upon trust, to maintain and support London bridge; and the rents and profits thereof have been from time to time applied and appropriated.

With reference to the 2d position,—That the charter does not state that the lands in Saint George's Fields are granted to the City, in trust for the maintenance and support of London bridge; we find that other lands purchased out of the Bridge House funds, have in like manner been conveyed to the City, absolutely, without stating the trust, but the same were afterwards invariably inserted in the rental of the Bridge House Estates, and the rents and profits thereof received by the Bridge Masters; and we also find, that the rents reserved in all leases (antient and modern) of the Bridge House Estates, are made payable to the City in the same general and unconditional manner. In addition to which, the lands in St. George's Fields have never hitherto been charged with the Orphans duty, to which all other estates vested in the City, except the Bridge House and Royal Hospital Estates, are liable.

With reference to the 3d position,—That certain duties and estates being granted to the City by the same charter, the estates should specifically defray the expenses incurred in the execution of the duties; we observe, that it being evident from the dates of the several charters, that the jurisdiction in Southwark was enjoyed by the City more than 220 years before the charter now under consideration was granted, it appears to us that no new duties were imposed on the City by that charter, but on the contrary, we think it may fairly be presumed that as a pecuniary consideration was given for such enlarged jurisdiction, additional magisterial powers and privileges only were thereby granted; and that the duties (if solicited privileges and franchises can with propriety be denominated duties) were imposed by the former charters. And it is also to be observed, that although the grant of the lands, and the grant of the additional privileges, are both contained in the same charter, yet they are separate and distinct grants, made for separate and distinct pecuniary considerations; and that the lands comprised in the one grant, are not in any manner incumbered or fettered with any charges or conditions whatever, in regard to the powers and privileges comprised in the other grants.

Before

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Before we conclude our observations on the construction intention and purposes of the last charter, we must observe, that having found (as above stated) that all the antient Bridge House Estates were devised and granted to the City, expressly upon trust for the support of London bridge; and that the original jurisdiction of the City in Southwark, granted by the charter of Edward III, was not obtained for the protection or benefit of the inhabitants of Southwark, but of the lives and properties of the citizens of London (by protecting them, as is therein stated, against felons and thieves, who took refuge in Southwark) we have not yet been able to discover the principle upon which the money paid for the purchase of the powers and privileges granted by the charter of Edward VI, was paid out of the Bridge House funds; because those powers and privileges could only be exercised and enjoyed by the City and its officers, and could not, as we conceive, be in any manner beneficial to the lands in St. George's Fields, granted by the same charter, which were at that time of the very trifling value of about twenty-five pounds per annum.

In addition to the facts abovementioned, we also find on reference to the proceedings of the Court of Common Council and of your Committee, that on the 27th July 1717, a lease was granted by the City to Robert Marshal, of the late Compter prison, by him erected, on ground in the parish of St. Olave's Southwark, (parcel of the Bridge House estates) for sixty-one years, at the clear yearly rent of twenty shillings; and that on the 30th day of June 1757, certain fees and perquisites theretofore taken by the bailiff of Southwark, were abolished by the Court of Common Council; and as a full compensation to the bailiff, it was resolved by the court, that the covenants on his part, for the payment of the rent, and for repairing and keeping the prison in repair, should not in future be inserted in the leases:

That the prison having been destroyed by fire in the year 1780, a new prison was erected at the City's expense, upon the site of the old prison, and upon other ground adjoining belonging to the Bridge House:

That in pursuance of an order of the Court of Common Council, of the 30th of November 1790, a grant was made by your Committee to Mr. Chamberlain, of the Compter prison, for ninety-nine years from Lady-day then last, at the clear yearly rent of two pounds, payable by the Chamberlain to the Bridge Masters; and upon condition of his keeping the premises in sufficient and necessary repair, and leaving the same in such repair at the end of the term, which reserved rent has been regularly paid by Mr. Chamberlain to the Bridge Masters.

We also find, that on the 6th day of October 1803, the Committee for General Purposes, reported to the Court of Common Council their opinion, that certain expenses, amounting to eleven thousand eight hundred and seventy-six pounds nineteen shillings and seven-pence halfpenny, which had been incurred by the City during the preceeding twenty years, in respect of the Borough of Southwark, (including two thousand five hundred and ninety-three pounds eight shillings and twopence, on account of rebuilding of the Compter) should be repaid by the Bridge House; and that such Report, after having been agreed to by the court, was printed, together with a Report of your worshipful Committee on the same subject, and a copy thereof sent to every member of that Court, and was finally negatived by the Court on the 27th day of March 1806.

It appears to us, from the above-mentioned and other proceedings of the Court of Common Council, that all expenses of maintaining the City's jurisdiction in the Borough of Southwark, of building and repairing the Borough Compter, and of supporting the prisoners confined therein, have been paid out of the City's, and not the Bridge House funds, until a recent period, when by an order of the Court of Common Council, of the 14th of April 1815, one thousand three hundred pounds per annum (after deducting certain fees) were directed to be, and have since been placed by the Bridge Masters into the hands of Mr. Chamberlain, for the purpose of paying the expense of establishing an efficient magistracy in Southwark. We consider it, however, proper to add, that we find upon reference to the Bridge Masters accounts, that in the year 1661, (more than 100 years after the charter of Edward VI, was obtained) they first paid twenty pounds for one year's fee (not salary) to the Justice of Southwark, under the denomination of an ancient and accustomed fee: which payment was continued until the appointment of Sir John Eamer to that office. There are other trifling payments of a similar nature, but which ought in our opinion to be regarded rather as irregular deviations from the general rule, than as any justification of the principle now sought to be established.

Having taken into our best and most deliberate consideration the several facts and circumstances above submitted to your judgment, and at the same time being

desirous

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desirous to afford every proper assistance and accommodation in our power to the Court of Aldermen, in the exercise of the City's jurisdiction in the Borough of Southwark, we are of opinion, that as soon as possession thereof can be obtained by your worshipful Committee, the ground adjoining to the Borough Compter, and described in the Plan produced, with the buildings thereon, should be granted to Mr. Chamberlain, for a term of years, to expire with the grant of the Compter, at such rent, payable to the Bridge Masters, and upon such conditions, as shall hereafter be agreed upon.

And we are also of opinion, that under the circumstances above-mentioned, the expense of erecting a boundary-wall to inclose the Compter, and the ground proposed to be added thereto, of enlarging the Compter, of erecting any other buildings, and all other charges to be hereafter incurred in respect of that prison, ought not to be paid out of the rents and revenues of the Bridge House Estates. All which we submit to the consideration of your worshipful Committee. Dated this eighth day of July 1817.

Robert Elliot.
Joseph Humpleby.
J. Daker.
John Ashlin.
Thomas Conway.
John Pearson.
John Elliott.
Benjamin Bovill.
Matthias P. Lucas.

James Davies.
William Rawlins.
William John Reeves.
Thomas Price.
Theophilus Hearsey.
Errington Paxton.
W. S. Angell.
Stephen Habberton."

RETURN of the Number of Prisoners in the BOROUGH COMPTER, on the First day of every Month, from January 1814 to July 1817.

DATE.	DEBTORS:		FELONIES, TRESPASSES, &c.		FINES:		Vagrants.	TOTAL.
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.		
1814:								
January	10	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	12
February	10	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	11
March	15	3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	18
April	10	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	11
May	21	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21
June	28	2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	30
July	18	2	1	- -	- -	- -	1	22
August	12	1	4	- -	- -	- -	- -	17
September	11	3	7	- -	- -	1	- -	22
October	19	1	11	7	5	- -	- -	43
November	12	2	2	1	3	- -	- -	20
December	16	2	3	2	1	- -	- -	24
1815:								
January	8	- -	8	3	2	- -	- -	21
February	7	2	13	- -	- -	- -	- -	22
March	10	1	10	2	- -	- -	- -	23
April	16	1	10	- -	- -	- -	- -	27
May	10	- -	21	- -	- -	- -	- -	31
June	17	- -	13	4	1	1	1	37
July	15	- -	4	4	- -	- -	- -	23
August	18	- -	8	9	- -	- -	- -	35
September	12	- -	7	6	- -	- -	- -	25
October	30	1	13	9	- -	- -	1	54
November	25	2	7	4	2	6	1	47
December	15	2	3	1	2	2	- -	25

(continued.)

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Return of the Number of the Prisoners, &c.—*continued.*

DATE.	DEBTORS: Men.	DEBTORS: Women	FELONIES, TRESPASSES, &c. Men.	FELONIES, TRESPASSES, &c. Women.	FINES: Men.	FINES: Women.	Vagrants.	TOTAL.
1816:								
January	23	- -	9	6	- -	- -	- -	38
February	25	- -	2	4	5	- -	- -	36
March	16	1	6	7	- -	2	- -	32
April	19	- -	7	3	3	4	- -	36
May	10	1	10	4	3	2	1	31
June	18	2	16	7	3	3	- -	49
July	32	2	1	2	6	3	- -	46
August	24	3	7	8	3	3	- -	48
September	24	2	11	11	3	3	- -	54
October	33	4	19	12	2	2	3	75
November	37	1	8	1	10	3	4	64
December	41	1	7	2	7	3	- -	61
1817:								
January	29	3	14	7	6	3	- -	62
February	26	1	20	5	5	2	2	61
March	27	1	4	2	5	3	3	45
April	21	2	4	1	11	3	4	46
May	28	4	12	3	3	3	- -	53
June	31	3	34	9	3	3	- -	83
July	25	4	5	5	9	2	- -	50

To the Worshipful The Bridge House Committee.

John Law, Keeper.

" To the Right honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, your Committee for General Purposes, to whom, on the 13th day of June last, it was referred to report on the reference from this Court of the 24th day of November 1814, relative to the expenses of the Compter or Gaol in the Borough of Southwark being defrayed out of the revenues arising from the estates in St. George's Fields and the said Borough, do certify, That we have proceeded in the consideration thereof, and having directed Mr. Solicitor to consider and report his opinion on the power of this Court to appropriate the monies arising from those estates for such purposes; he has since made a Report to us, in writing under his hand, thereon, which we have caused to be hereunto annexed.

All which we submit to the judgment of this honourable Court. Dated this 13th day of February 1818.

C. W. Hick.
W. Matthews.
W. Waterhouse.
Edwd Frisby.
W. Cawthorn.
Thomas Harper.
Thomas Parker.
J. Hurcombe.
John Jackson.
Edwd Hughes.
Jno Adcock.
James Pearsall."

" To the Worshipful the Committtee for General Purposes.

Gentlemen,

Pursuant to your order, whereby I was directed to report upon the reference from this worshipful Committee, respecting the monies arising from the estates in St. George's Fields being applicable to the expenses of the Borough Compter; I have the honour to certify, that I have perused and considered the several charters, in relation to the rights liberties and jurisdiction thereby granted to the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of London, and also have examined several records and documents

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documents at the Bridge House relative thereto; from which it appears, that previous to the granting of the charter of Edward the Sixth, the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens held the said town and borough in fee-farm of the Crown; and their jurisdiction consisted in the power to arrest felons, the assize of bread, the office of clerk of the market, the execution and return of writs, &c. and that the Corporation were entitled to the revenue arising from fines, forfeitures and amerciaments, waifs, estrays, treasure trove, &c. &c. granted by the charter of Edward the Fourth, and by which they were enabled to pay their fee-farm-rent; that in those grants which were antecedent to the charter of Edward the Sixth, the rights franchises and liberties of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the prior and monks of Bermondsey, and of other lords of liberties in Southwark, were excepted.—That by the City's purchase of the charter of Edward the Sixth, all the rights franchises and liberties which belonged to those lords, and were held with their lands, were transferred, together with those lands, to the City, and granted in as full manner as the former lords ever held or enjoyed the same, and the City jurisdiction and franchises in Southwark became thereby greatly enlarged and extended.

That among the temporal rights of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was the office of bailiwick of Southwark, of which the City became possessed by this purchase, and which had been in former times granted by the Kings to individuals, when there happened to be a vacancy in the see, during the period of such vacancy; that the prior and monks of Bermondsey had the franchise of royal and criminal jurisdiction, infangtheft, summons, and inquest, with other liberties and customs which belonged to the crown, and had a gaol and a gaol delivery within their district, as many of the religious houses anciently claimed to have, the charges of exercising which jurisdiction, and of maintaining the gaol, must consequently have been a charge upon the revenues arising from the lands, and which the City so purchased; that to enable the mayor and commonalty and citizens, however, to exercise criminal jurisdiction, and for that purpose to hold sessions of the peace, and to deliver the gaol, it became necessary to invest their magistrates with powers as justices of the peace in Southwark. The charges of maintaining the criminal jurisdiction by the City magistrates, in their character of such justices of the peace, and of supporting the gaol, of which the City's bailiff of Southwark is the keeper, seems therefore, as I humbly submit, to be properly chargeable upon the revenues arising from the manors and lands in question. I beg leave further to observe, that in the course of my examination of the records and documents at the Bridge House, it appeared, that in the ancient Bridge Master's accounts, the rents arising from the lands in question were distinguished from the rents of lands proper, and also of foreign lands, belonging to and applicable solely to the sustentation of London Bridge, and the lands granted by the charter of Edward the Sixth, which are denominated "New purchased Lands." I beg further to observe, that in the proceedings relative to the purchase of those lands, great care appears to have been taken to assert the City's right to the use of them. In the first instance, the Common Serjeant was directed to draw a book for the City to the King's highness, for the purchase of his Highness's lands and liberties in Southwark to the City's use. The sum of money paid to the King is not said to be borrowed from the Bridge House, but to be taken from the Bridge House, and therefore probably might have been the accumulation of the City's profits under the charter of Edward the Fourth, or of other lands given to the City for other purposes than the support of the bridge, and which from their locality might have been placed in the receipt and account of the Bridge House, and not from the proper rents or revenues incidental to the bridge; but being money in the Bridge Master's hands, from whatever source derived other than those devoted to the sustentation of the bridge and belonging to the City, the Common Council directed the sum wanting to be taken from the Bridge House, and a few days afterwards ordered that the Bridge Masters should be discharged upon their account for the money so taken: That care appears also to have been taken by the corporation to record the fact when estates were purchased to the use of the bridge, as in the year 1563, of the purchase of lands of Elizabeth Agar, to be conveyed to the Chamberlain expressly for the use of London bridge. It further appears, that two years after the date of the charter of Edward the Sixth, it was declared, that what should be received by the bailiffs, for waifs, estrays, &c. should be paid to the Bridge Masters for the use of the City, to whom it is there expressly said to belong; and in the Bridge Masters' accounts of 1553 and 1554, credit is given by them for perquisites and profits received by the bailiffs for the City's use. In 1556, the sum of six pounds seven shillings and eight-pence is charged in the Bridge Masters accounts, as paid for rogues and vagabonds, persons taken and kept in the Compter by order of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. Several other

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other items in those accounts also show, that charges occurred in the exercise of criminal jurisdiction by the City magistrates, as justices in Southwark, have been defrayed out of monies in the hands of the Bridge Masters. It appears further, that the Corporation have distinguished between the proper lands devised or given for the sustentation of the bridge and the new-purchased lands, in the instance where the Corporation took a lease of the ground, whereon the Borough Compter is now erected, from the Bridge House, that ground being in fact part of the ancient and proper lands for the support of the bridge. In the most antient leases also of the lands pertaining to the bridge, the same were demised by the Bridge Masters by virtue of their office, and the rents reserved to them and the leases executed under their seal of office. All which is submitted to the consideration of this worshipful Committee, by

Gentlemen, your faithful and obedient Servant,

Guildhall, *W. L. Newman*, Solicitor."
February 9, 1818.

"The lands contained in the Charter of Edward the Sixth, are several messuages or tenements in Southwark, Molters Close, containing fifteen acres in Newington; two acres being Saint George's Fields dunghill; a close of land in Lambeth Marsh; thirty-nine acres and three roods of meadow lying in several parcels in Saint George's Fields; several other messuages in Southwark, which were formerly the lands of the Duke of Suffolk.

The lordship and manor of Southwark, which belonged to the Monastery of Bermondsey, and all messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, pastures, common wastes, streets, roads, grounds, rents, &c. which belonged to the said Monastery. The manor and Borough of Southwark, with all their rights, members and effects, late parcels of the possessions of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the annual rents and services issuing out of messuages in Southwark and Newington; and all other messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments, which belonged to the Archbishop and Bishoprick of Canterbury."

On the 18th February last, the bailiff of the Borough of Southwark having previously presented a Report to a Committee of Aldermen, in relation to the present state of the Borough Compter, the Lord Mayor by desire of the Court of Aldermen, laid the same before the Court of Common Council; requesting that they would take it into their most serious and immediate consideration, whereupon that Court resolved:

"That the proceedings of the Court of Aldermen, and the Report of the bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, be referred to the committee for letting the Bridgehouse Estates, and that the said committee do prepare an estimate of the increasing charge of putting the Borough Compter into such a condition as may be proper for the accommodation of the prisoners confined therein; and that the funds arising from the several estates mentioned by the City solicitor, in his Report annexed to the Report of the Committee for General Purposes read at the last court, as in his opinion liable to the purposes of justice, be applied to the same."

How long is it since it has been changed to a gaol for the Borough?—From about the year 1814.

On what footing does it stand now?—At present it is a gaol or prison attendant upon the magistracy of the Borough, as well as the Court of Requests.

Did the inhabitants of the Borough, from time to time petition the corporation of London to establish that magistracy?—Yes.

When the prison was assigned to the purpose of holding felons, assaults and misdemeanors, and to the purposes of the magistracy in general, was there any understanding that the size of it was to be increased by the City?—No; some idea was afloat at the time, that it might not be necessary, as the magistrates acting in the Borough, would have a right to commit to Horsemonger-lane; but that has not been done yet.

Previous to the establishment of the magistracy, where were the night charges taken to?—They were taken to this place, as a compter, and they were afterwards taken before the magistrates at Union Hall, and then disposed of.

Can you state the reasons why the recommendations contained in the Report of the Gaol Committee, referred to by you, have not been carried into effect, particularly one, in consequence of the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1812, recommending that the present door to the women's ward be closed, and access made to a small yard, by which two court-yards would be afforded to separate the men from the women?—At that time the prison was more immediately under the

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the direction of the bailiff; and on the 29th of July, a Report was presented, in which it was stated, that the committee had been attended by Sir Watkin Lewis, the bailiff of the Borough of Southwark, who assured them the wishes of the Court should be attended to.

Would that alteration have been attended with any considerable expense?—I am not competent to judge.

You are aware that the magistrates have from time to time visited that prison as a committee, of which you have been generally the clerk, and pointed out those difficulties, arising from the crowded state of it, and that they have done every thing in their power to have that difficulty removed?—There have been frequent meetings of the magistrates at the Borough Compter, who have investigated into its state, and have endeavoured to afford remedies as much as in their power.

Will you inform the Committee, whether the corporation are at the expense of the salary of the keeper, out of their own purse?—No; it is paid out of the funds arising from the estates in St. George's Fields, agreeably to the Report of the Committee for General Purposes, of the 27th June 1815, before mentioned.

Do they supply the prisoners with bread and meat, out of their own purse?—At present, the expenses of bread and meat supplied to the prisoners in the Borough Compter, is paid out of the City's cash, in the chamber.

Mr. *John Law,* again called in; and Examined.

Mr. *John Law.*

IT seems that it was recommended by the Court of Aldermen, that the access from the women's ward to the debtors yard should be shut up, and a door made into the felons yard, for the purpose of having separate yards for the men and women; can you state why that recommendation has not been carried into effect?—I do not know; it was begun, and they broke the wall through out of one of the cells into the female ward; but it was stopped, because it was intended, I believe, by the Court of Aldermen, to appropriate that felons yard for the female debtors; but it was thought afterwards it could not be spared.

And nothing further has been done since that time?—No.

The Committee saw in the felons yard, that the convicted felons were without irons, and the untried were ironed; is that usual always?—It is not my wish to inflict any more punishment than the law requires.

Is it usual in the prison?—Yes; my motive for ironing those who are untried, is security; those that are tried are merely for fines.

Was there not a vagrant came in on the 28th of December, in a very filthy state?—Yes, there was.

Where was he placed in the prison?—I believe in the debtors ward.

Did he in that filthy state, sleep with any of the other prisoners?—He was, I recollect, in the infirmary ward, where I believe there were four others who had fevers.

On account of the state in which he was, he was placed in a room at that time used as an infirmary?—Yes.

Did he require medical attendance?—He did.

Why did not you cleanse that man when he was brought in?—He was cleansed by the rest of the prisoners in as good a manner as he could be; he kept to his bed for the whole of the time.

When a prisoner was admitted in this filthy state, why did not you cleanse him before he was mixed with the others?—It was not discovered immediately; he was only committed for seven days.

You must surely have known it the first day?—I do not think I had any knowledge of it.

Did you discover it yourself, or did the other prisoners complain to you?—The other prisoners told me he had vermin about him.

How came you to place him in the infirmary?—He was ill; his clothes were taken from him, and he was washed I believe.

How came you to place him in the infirmary?—We had no proper convenience to wash him.

Were his clothes burnt before he left the prison, on account of the state in which they were?—Not the whole of them; some were, and others were bought for him when he went out.

How many parishes do they send in prisoners from, for debt?—They send from the whole of the East Half Hundred of Brixton, which includes many parishes.

Can you tell how many?—Twelve.

Veneris, 3° *die Aprilis*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Richard Clark, Esq. called in; and Examined.

Richard Clark, Esq.

YOU are Treasurer of Bridewell Hospital?—Yes.

Does that unite with Bethlem Hospital?—Yes.

How long have you been treasurer?—I believe above thirty-four years.

Is the appointment in the governors by an election?—Yes, I had the honour of coming in by invitation; a formal deputation was sent to me.

Is there any thing attached to it, by way of salary or otherwise?—Nothing whatever; the treasurer has a house to reside in, that is the whole.

Do you reside there?—Yes.

Have you any allowance of coals or candles?—None whatever; not even pens, ink and paper.

Do they pay the taxes for you?—The assessed taxes I pay, to the best of my recollection; I pay for my windows; I think they are included in my list of taxes, but I do not speak with confidence.

Is it a good house?—It is a pretty good house; there was a very excellent house, the official house, which I occupied some years ago; but when the alterations took place in front of the hospital, I told the governors that I thought it would be for the advantage of the hospital to have the official house upon the spot, the business of the hospital would be more immediately under the eye of the directors, than where it was; I do not know what the present house cost in building, but it is a considerable advantage to the hospital. We have let the other house for 330 *l.* per annum; and, I believe, the present house cost about 3,000 *l.*

And was built expressly for the treasurer's residence?—Yes; in lieu of that which he resigned.

Is there any other official person has a residence upon the place?—The chaplain has a house, the steward has apartments, the treasurer's house and the chaplain's form the front of the hospital, of course the matron and servants live in the hospital.

Who are the persons who have the superintendence of that particular hospital of Bridewell; what is the nature of the establishment?—There is the treasurer, the chaplain, the clerk, the steward and accountant, which two last characters are united in one person; the porter, who receives all commitments, they are addressed to him; the porter's man, the matron, and four beadles. I think I have enumerated all.

Are there no persons resident there in the nature of arts masters?—Yes, that is a distinct thing; I do not recollect the names of them.

Do you recollect the number?—I think seven.

Seven of each, male and female?—No; there is no arts masters for the females; they are persons who have houses, and take apprentices from Christ's Hospital.

What are the general trades?—There are two weavers, a printer, a bookbinder, and a tailor; no shoemaker at present; there was a silversmith, but his business failed during the scarcity of money.

You have a certain quantity of estates applicable to that particular part of Bridewell?—Yes, it is quite distinct, except being under the management of the same governors. Every year, when the accounts are made up, the preceding year's account we print an abstract of; here are three abstracts of accounts, for the years 1814, 1815, and 1816; the last year's account is not yet made up; it is now making up, but there is very little variation.

[*They were delivered in, and read. See Appendix No.* 3, *pp.* 221, *&c.*]

In the account from Christmas 1814 to 1815, the receipts are 9,652 *l.*; and in the last year, that is to say, in 1816, there are only 7,507 *l.*; whence arose that deficiency?—I cannot explain that myself; the accountant is the person to explain it; he is the receiver of the rents; there are a great many expenses paid by the receiver out of the rents, and he pays to the treasurer the surplus. I suppose there might have been a deficiency on account of the tenants not paying.

Does the income of the hospital arise from land or houses?—Both; chiefly from houses.

In these three years, the sums expended in buildings and repairs amount to 7,777 *l.*; what new buildings have taken place?—We have had a new chapel built, new committee

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committee rooms, new court rooms, and the buildings themselves are very ancient, consequently take a great deal of repair; I am not sure that the chapel and the house that I occupy, have been within the last two years rebuilt.

Is there generally a balance in hand, at the end of the year, to any considerable amount?—It is stated there what it is.

It is nine hundred and odd pounds in one year; is that the general average?—No, I believe it is generally less than that; but whatever it is, it is carried to the next year's account.

Can you state to the Committee what has been the general balance in favour of the hospital, at the end of every year, for the last seven years?—I am not prepared to do it at present, but it shall be furnished to the Committee.

With regard to the present rental, has it been at the present state for some years past?—I believe there is not much difference.

Is it likely to increase by leases falling in very soon?—In the course of perhaps twenty years, there will be an increase from the buildings in New Bridge-street. About forty years ago, the ground was let upon building leases for sixty-one years, and when the leases expire, there will be of course the improved rents.

From a report of the Committee in the year 1799, it appears that the average of rents for five years amounted to 4,451 *l.* 0 *s.* 4 *d.*; it therefore appears, that the estate, since the year 1799, has nearly doubled in point of value?—It must be so.

Has the value of the estate been progressively increasing from year to year?—I believe it has not been so lately; I am sorry to say, there is a very considerable part of the estate in Wapping which has been very considerably depreciated in consequence of the London Docks; we were looking forward to a very considerable improvement from that estate, but I am afraid it will not take place now; we cannot land our goods there now; we have lost the advantage of the wharfs, which will be a material deterioration.

Does your estate proceed from the rent of houses, or levying fines?—We take no fines; it is from the rent of houses.

Do you receive any thing from occasional benefactions?—A great number.

Are they included in this account?—Yes.

Do you mean from persons becoming governors?—Yes, and very considerable legacies.

In one year they appear to amount to 250 *l.*?—Yes.

Do they often exceed that?—Yes; one year we had a legacy of 10,000 *l.*; 5,000 *l.* for Bethlem, and 5,000 *l.* for Bridewell; Mr. Kenton gave us 5,000 *l.*; the favourite hospital now is Bethlem; the gentlemen in general prefer giving to Bethlem than Bridewell.

Do you know the general arrangements of Bridewell; can you speak of its general management; do you know the number of persons committed?—I can tell the Committee the numbers last year; I took it from the printed report which is introduced in Christ's Hospital every Easter Monday; they are as follow:—

Bridewell Hospital:

Received into this hospital during the last year, under commitments by the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen of this City, as vagrants or disorderly persons, who have been kept to hard labour (or received correction) - - - - - - - - -	244
Apprentices sent by the Chamberlain for solitary confinement -	28
Received into this hospital, during the same period, sundry poor persons who have been committed before they could be passed to their respective parishes, as required by a late Act of Parliament - - - - - - - - - -	2,021
Apprentices received from Christ's Hospital, brought up in divers trades and manufactures, and maintained in and at the charge of this hospital - - - - - - - - - -	30
	2,323

What is the number of vagrants and disorderly persons in 1816?—294; the apprentices are included in that number; the officer has not made a return to me of the number of apprentices.

What is the number committed, till passed to their parishes?—1,316.

Apprentices received from Christ's Hospital, brought up to trades, how many?—I believe it is the same as the last.

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How many vagrants and disorderly persons were there in the year 1815?—426, but they include 47 apprentices.

How many persons passed to their parish?—520.

In the year 1814 how many?—I have not got that; I took the last three years only.

Can you tell the Committee, whether you have any accommodation for walking in the yard; have you the means of giving that accommodation?—There is a churchyard at the back of the prison, in which the prisoners who were sent for six months were formerly permitted to walk; as to those who come for a few days, it was not thought necessary.

Were they permitted to walk alone?—No; they ought not to be; it did happen that one escaped, and since that time nobody has been permitted to go into the churchyard; that is about three or four years ago.

Since that period nobody has been allowed any exercise?—I believe not; there is nobody confined for any length of time now.

Have you not one for six months now?—I believe not; the porter told me there were none for six months.

Is the churchyard the property of the hospital?—I am sorry to say it is not, it belongs to the Dorset family; I have been very desirous of getting it; besides the advantage it is to the hospital, it is a very fine airy spot; there is a great influx of air through the churchyard.

Do you pay rent for it?—Yes.

Are any persons belonging to a particular precinct buried there?—Yes, belonging to the precinct of Bridewell.

The inhabitants, not the prisoners?—Yes.

As you pay rent for the churchyard, do you take fees?—Yes; not the hospital; I think the chaplain has his regular fees.

Does your chaplain attend that service?—Yes.

If there are any fees, he receives them?—Yes; there was an application lately made to the Duchess Dowager to part with it, but she declined selling it.

Is there any other property belonging to her?—Yes, considerable property in that neighbourhood; and there are several houses in the neighbourhood I should like to get possession of.

Does the Duchess Dowager decline to part with it on any terms?—Yes; Mr. Hardwick brought me a letter within this fortnight from, I believe, the agent of the Duchess, in which she declines doing it.

Are you one of the governors of the hospital?—Yes.

Did you attend the meeting when the application was made on the part of the city of London, in 1814, to request answers to some questions which were submitted to the governors?—I forget now whether I did or not.

You do not recollect?—No, I do not.

Look at this letter; have you any recollection of this being laid before the governors?

[*It was read, as follows:*]

> " Sir, " Guildhall, January 29, 1814.
>
> " I am directed by the committee, appointed by the Court of Common Council, to take into consideration the petition, signed by upwards of two thousand inhabitants, householders of the city of London, relative to the nuisance created by common prostitutes frequenting the public streets (of which the inclosed is a copy;) and also to consider and report what remedy can be applied for the relief of the public in respect thereof; to request you will be good enough to answer the several questions following, or submit them, if you think fit, to the governors of Bridewell Hospital, or any committee of the said governors, viz.
>
> " Whether the afore-mentioned committee of the Common Council, can be furnished with a copy of the report of a select committee of the governors relative to Bridewell Hospital, presented in the year 1798?
>
> " Whether any, and what alterations have been made in the management of that establishment in the year 1798?
>
> " What number of idle and disorderly persons can be admitted into Bridewell at one time, for the purpose of employment or punishment?
>
> " Whether any enlargement can be made in the present establishment of Bridewell for the above purpose, and to what extent?
>
> " Whether any distinction can be made in the treatment of the vicious and those who are less profligate, in order that they might not be associated in their several employments?

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"What is the nature of the employments to which idle and disorderly persons, particularly females, are at present put?

"Whether any other employment, than what is now used, can be adopted for idle and disorderly women committed to Bridewell, so as to preserve a distinction between the vicious and the less profligate?

"What are the kinds of punishment or correction inflicted on common prostitutes committed to Bridewell, exclusive of hard labour?

"Whether the governors of Bridewell can suggest any method by which the objects of the petitioners can be obtained, and the evil so much complained of remedied?

"And, generally, whether the governors can state what good effects have been the result of the correction and labour in Bridewell?

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient Servant,
"*H. Woodthorpe.*"

"John Poynder, Esq.
Bridewell Hospital."

I remember the letter.

Can you inform the Committee what were the reasons that induced the governors, if you concurred in that vote, to refuse giving an answer to the city of London to the questions which were submitted to them.—It does not occur to me what were the reasons; it was discussed very much at the time.

Were you present at the time it took place?—I think I was.

Have you any general recollection of what the principal reason was?—What strikes me now is, that the city went too far in calling upon the governors for those explanations which were required.

That the governors were jealous of the interference of the city?—Yes; at the same time they wished to do every thing to accommodate the magistrates.

They did not object to the questions themselves, but the way in which they were put?—Yes.

Was it for the same reason that the committee refused a copy of a report of the select committee in 1798?—I should imagine it was.

The Committtee wish to know how the governors are appointed?—There are three modes; the president has a right of appointing two governors every year, and the treasurer has the privilege of appointing one every year; every year twelve governors give a dinner to the body of governors, and those who have served the office of steward for that dinner have a right to recommend or nominate a gentleman, who, if he is thought fit to be a governor by the committee, to whom it is referred, he is admitted a governor upon paying 50*l.*; others are admitted only upon paying 100*l.*

Do the two that are nominated by the president, or the one nominated by the treasurer, pay anything?—Nothing.

Is the office of governor an office of profit?—Not at all; he gives 100*l.* upon coming in, and he gives one dinner, which costs him about 30*l.*

How many governors are there?—Four hundred; the lord mayor and aldermen, and twelve of the common council, are governors *ex officio.*

To what object are those sums applied?—To the general funds of the hospital; most of them now go to Bethlem Hospital; we make no distinction; if a gentleman gives 100*l.* to Bethlem Hospital, he is admitted a governor to Bridewell.

Supposing a governor pays 100*l.* is he a governor of both?—Yes.

To which fund does the sum go?—To whichever he pleases; in short, if any gentleman here was to send me, as treasurer, 100*l.* and should say, "In what way shall this be applied?" I should say, "If you ask my opinion, it had better go to Bethlem, because that fund wants more assistance." If no direction were given, I should divide it equally.

Have your funds always been equal to your expenditure as to Bridewell?—The funds now are equal.

You are now in full receipt of an income sufficient to meet all the expenses, with the very increased number to which you have alluded?—Yes; quite equal.

Do you make any charge upon the city of London, for any of those persons sent there?—No.

Do they pay any sum of money for clothing or maintenance, or otherwise?—No, I know of no payment made.

As treasurer, the funds of both hospitals pass through your hands?—No, not the whole, because the receiver pays a great deal out of it, and it is only the balances that come into my hand.

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What is the permanent average balance that remains in your hands for the two hospitals?—I suppose about 3,000 *l.*

Is there any limitation to the number of persons admitted into Bridewell, except the amount of your funds, and the means of accommodating them?—No, none at all; all that have been sent there have been received; with respect to labour, that is a desideratum that has existed ever since I have known the prison; many committees have met upon the subject, and have endeavoured to find out some employment for the prisoners, but they have failed in most instances. I believe, in all instances, except on the female side, where they have now got some machines for the women to wind hemp; but the persons who come into the hospital, come for a very short time; seven days they are generally committed for; they are not above five days out of the seven in the hospital; that is the great difficulty. A great number of years ago, in the time of Hogarth, persons were employed in beating hemp, the males and females mixed indiscriminately together. Mr. Howard recommended solitary confinement as the better mode of treating persons who were committed for so short a period, and the governors adopted that recommendation.

Do you still act upon it?—Yes, as much as we can, we keep them separately.

In the year 1799, the committee made a report, recommending various changes to take place in the management of the hospital; did anything follow that report?—I remember that Report was taken into very serious consideration, but it was thought that the gentlemen were mistaken in their notions.

Nothing material took place upon it?—I think not.

When you speak of committees having sat at Bridewell, in order to consider the means of employing the people, what persons do you mean to describe as forming the committee?—The governors. Every year there is a committee appointed, consisting of forty-two governors, and they divide themselves into different branches; there is the Prison committee, the Bethlem committee, and the Audit committee.

Which of those committees took into consideration the subject mentioned?—The Prison committee; who meet every week, and superintend and go over the prison, and examine the provisions, and see that the people are kept as well as they can be kept.

You mean to state, that the governors of the hospital have, from time to time, made inquiries into this subject?—Yes, they have.

And been very desirous of introducing some plan for employing the people there?—Yes.

You generally re-elect some of the same persons?—They are elected for seven years, and then a portion of them go out, then they are perhaps brought forward again the following year.

Mrs. *Mary Bolland,* called in; and Examined.

Mrs. Mary Bolland.

YOU are Matron of Bridewell Hospital?—Yes.

How long have you been so?—Between three and four years.

You are elected by the general body of governors?—Yes.

What is your salary?—Seventy pounds a year, a house to live in tax free, and repairs paid for.

Have you coals allowed you?—No coals, candles nor soap.

Are you allowed a servant?—No; last year I had an additional thirty pounds given me; it was not considered as a salary, it was voted because of my having had additional duties to perform; it was considered as a gratuity; but I do not know that I shall have it again.

Do you receive any fees?—None whatever; I am paid for any sick diet allowed for people unwell, such as gruel, or anything the doctor orders for them.

State in your own way the duties you understand you have to perform, or which you are directed to perform; are there any rules?—Yes there are; I have a copy of them with me.

[*They were delivered in, and read, as follow:*]

"The Matron of Bridewell is to reside constantly at her apartments in the hospital, and never to absent herself from them without leave of the president or treasurer; is at all times to take charge of all women prisoners who are legally committed, and to keep as much order and decorum among them as lies in her power; and if any dispute arise among them which she cannot quell, to call in the porter, beadles, and porter's man, to her assistance.—To take care that none but those who are incapable from sickness or natural infirmities be excused from their daily labour; to visit the apartments frequently, and to see that the prisoners are properly treated, and

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Mrs. Mary Bolland.

are not employed in any work beyond their strength; and particularly, that they are duly served with proper provisions; but no prisoner is ever to be employed in serving the same to the others.—To see that the women's prison be washed occasionally with vinegar, fumigated occasionally with Dr. Carmichael Smith's nitrous acid, and that the ceilings and cells are scraped and whitewashed, conformably to Act of Parliament, not less than once in every year; and that all the women prisoners in health to bear it (those under vagrant passes excepted) be thoroughly washed or bathed on admission, and as often afterwards as necessary, or as may be directed by the medical officers or the prison sub-committee; and further, to see that two tubs, for warm and cold bathing, be constantly kept in good order.—To take care that the women prisoners clean their apartments daily, and wash their clothes every Friday, that they may appear decent at chapel on Sundays; and likewise to see that all such as are able do attend divine service.—To take care that the medicines or sick diet ordered by any of the medical officers for the prisoners be duly administered, and to attend upon the sick with care and humanity in all manner of disorders.—She is not to harbour inmates as lodgers, nor to accept or permit to be taken any fee or money from any prisoner; nor permit any prisoner to have a bed, strong beer, liquor or other indulgence, except by order of the president, the treasurer, the prison sub-committee, one of the medical officers, or the steward, on pain of being discharged; and no books are to be introduced into the prison, but such as are authorized by the president, treasurer, or chaplain.—She is always to attend the porter or porter's man whenever any occasion whatever requires the attendance of those officers in the women's prison, either on the prisoners first commitment, on delivering their work, provisions, or otherwise."

Is there a book of rules which instructs every officer in his duties?—Yes.

And this is the part which belongs to you?—Yes.

State what are the particular arrangements with regard to your duty?—My duty is to keep them in order as well as I can, and if I cannot, to call in the porters or beadles to my assistance. I visit them once a day, or as many times as I may think proper; sometimes I go as often as three or four times a day.

Do you go among the male prisoners?—No, only the females; I have nothing to do on the male side whatever.

Do you supply them with their food?—I see it given them; the steward gives it them.

State what it is?—They have a quartern loaf divided into six every day, somewhere about twelve ounces; ten ounces of meat without bone, four times a week; the three remaining days they have the soup in which the meat has been boiled, with the addition of rice and bread; there are some pieces of bread in it; and they have three pints of table beer per day.

Any breakfast?—That is for their breakfast, dinner and supper, as they choose to have it; it is served out at twelve o'clock, and they use it as they think proper.

Have they any soup for breakfast?—The broth they have every other day.

They have not gruel every day?—No, only when they are sick; they have bread and cheese when they first come in in the evening; the same quantity of bread; I do not know the weight of the cheese, it is a considerable piece.

That is to say, if they come in after the dinner hour, they have bread and cheese?—They always do come in after the dinner hour, somewhere about five o'clock in the afternoon.

You make no distribution of food till twelve in the morning?—No.

Is the bread new bread, or a day old?—It is generally a day old; it may have been more occasionally; it is white bread, and good meat.

How is it supplied?—It is brought in by the steward's man.

Where is it cooked?—In the steward's kitchen, and that is within the prison, but not immediately where they are confined.

It is within the prison yard, where the arts masters live, and it is cooked by him?—Yes, by his servant.

Is it done under the management of any committee of the house?—I do not know.

Does he charge so much a head for the prisoners?—I do not know.

As to the infirmary, is that under your care?—Yes, it is; it is a room at the top of the prison.

Is there a separate infirmary for the men and women?—I do not know; we have nothing to do with the men, they are entirely distinct from the females; when there is anybody ill, they are put there, but I have not any very sick generally; I have had two or three die there.

Mrs. Mary Bolland.

About what is the average number of sick in the hospital?—I cannot tell; I never took an account; but they very often come in with bad colds, and ill in consequence of going without food a considerable time; then it is not judged necessary to put them into the infirmary, and they have only remained in the cells where the others could give them what they wanted, tea or gruel, for instance.

Supposing persons to come in in a starved state, are they allowed some extra provisions?—Yes, as soon as the doctor allows it them; if it was a case very bad, I should certainly give it them before I had seen the doctor; I have done so, and told the doctor of it; there was one, the night before last, that I gave something to before I had seen the doctor.

Is the doctor allowed, to your knowledge, to order anything he may think proper?—Yes, wine, or anything he pleases.

And you supply it?—Yes, and I make out a bill; it is set down in a book what they are to have?

Can you tell the amount of that?—Sometimes it is eight or nine or ten pounds a quarter.

Are there any stores in the prison?—None.

Does the surgeon attend the prison daily, or only attend when he is sent for?—Either him or the apothecary daily attend; I will not say there have not been days when they have not attended; in my opinion, the principal diseases arise from bad living, and lying about the streets.

You cannot say that the doctor and apothecary attend every day?—I think most days; one or the other is there every day; there may be an exception, but generally one or the other is there; and if there is a case very bad, even at ten o'clock at night, I send for the surgeon instead of the apothecary because he is near, and the apothecary lives at Bethlem.

What distance does Mr. Lawrence live from you?—At the College of Physicians.

Had you not, when the Committee visited the prison, a woman in one of the common rooms in a very dreadful state?—She came in on Tuesday evening the 10th; on Wednesday morning I saw her; I did not see her on Tuesday, because I was out; it is sometimes the case that I am not in the way of an evening; if I am not, I always ask when I come in, who has come in since I was away, of the woman who has the charge of the rest, and whether they are in health; and if I hear no complaints, I do not see them till the next morning, and that was the case with this woman; she made no complaint when she came in; I believe her name was Casey.

When did you hear of her making complaint?—On Wednesday morning; the Committee coming, I had not time to send for Mr. Lawrence, and he came before I did send; on Wednesday, at one o'clock, Mr. Lawrence saw her, and he wrote down for her to have tea; as she had had her dinner that day of meat, I did not give it her till four o'clock.

She was lying in bed?—No, not in bed, she was up; she was in the room where they were all assembled.

The Committee found her in bed?—Then she must have gone to bed that morning; she was removed up into the infirmary the next morning, as soon as I could get it aired.

Did she receive any medicines at all in the course of that afternoon or evening?—I do not think she did; she had the tea at four o'clock, and I know of no medicines given that day; I do not think Mr. Lawrence considered it necessary.

The next morning she was received into the infirmary?—Yes.

What state was she in then, was she much worse?—I do not think she was; I have never seen her very bad.

Did the doctor see her that morning?—Yes.

Did he prescribe for her?—Yes, he ordered the medicines.

Does he enter the medicines he orders in a book?—I do not know.

Where are they made up?—I think at the chymist's in Bridge-street, if there is not time to send to Bethlem; sometimes they are made up at Bethlem.

The room she was put in, is that the room used always regularly as an infirmary?—Yes, always, when we consider people to be ill.

How long before she was put there, had there been a person there?—I do not recollect.

Had there been any person in that infirmary for some months before?—I dare say not for two or three months; the roof had been some time under repair.

Was there a fire made in it?—Yes, there was a fire made to air the room.

Had you a fire made in the infirmary the morning she was put there?—I had, and I had it opened to air; it was very dry.

Mrs. Mary Bolland.

Had there been any fire in the room from the time it had beon occupied before?—No, I do not think there had.

Was any person put in there at the same time?—Yes, a girl that was very bad, and a person to take care of them.

What bedding have you in the infirmary?—Mattrasses.

Wool or straw?—Wool.

Iron bedsteads?—No, wooden.

Are there sheets and blankets?—Blankets, but no sheets; there have been, I believe, sheets; there were one or two old ones I gave to this woman.

Did you give her any thing yourself that day?—Yes.

What had she received from you as nourishment?—Tea and gruel in the morning and afternoon, and barley-water.

How long did she remain in that state before she was removed away from Bridewell?—Last Monday she was removed, she went at her own request.

Did she remain ill from the 10th till the time she went out?—Yes, she might have gone out before.

Was she well enough?—Yes, the apothecary said so.

Was she a pauper?—Yes, a vagrant.

Where was her parish?—She said Weymouth, and that was where she was going.

Had she any linen on when she come in?—No, but that I did not know; she was very decent in her dress, she had a coloured cotton gown on, tied up to her throat; she had a decent handkerchief on, and was very decent in her appearance, but she had no linen.

How long did she remain in that state before she had linen?—Till Saturday, when a gentleman and lady called, and gave her a shift.

When did you know she had no linen?—On Saturday, on that day.

She had been in bed since Thursday?—No, she was not so ill as to lay in bed all that time; she was ill no doubt; any violent complaint in her bowels might occasion her to be so, and that was hers.

Have you any allowance of linen in the hospital, which you can supply to these unfortunate women when they want any?—No; but the committee, who go round on the Thursday, give to those they think proper; they give a great deal away, sometimes petticoats, shoes and stockings; they send for them to a sale shop near at hand; but the Committee must be aware that many make a bad use of what is given them, and come in again in a very bad state.

When they quit the prison, are they allowed to take away the clothes with them?—Yes; it is given them for that purpose.

Do they not give them clothes to wear during the time they are in Bridewell?—They generally give it them when they go out.

Does it not often happen that women are there almost in a state of nudity, without shoes and stockings?—Many are badly off.

What bed is provided for people not in the infirmary?—Straw, put into a sort of case, which we can remove at pleasure, and two blankets and a rug, and three blankets if they feel themselves cold.

Do you fumigate the prison often?—We throw vinegar about it sometimes; and we have used Dr. Smith's fumigating machines, if we have had any thing like fever.

What labour have you now in the female part of the prison?—Spinning machines; they have been introduced about three or four months.

Prior to that what labour had they?—Picking oakum.

Do you find any great difficulty in inducing the people to work?—No; there are some very ready to work, and I have found the disorderly part very well behaved when they are with me.

Do you allow them any share of their labour?—A penny a pound upon what they spin.

How much is a pound worth?—I believe it costs 10*d.* and it fetches 14*d.*

So that they have one-fourth part of the profits upon what they spin?—Yes.

Do you put them all to spin that?—Yes; I have not had enough to put to all the machines since I have had them.

What class of prisoners do you not put to work?—Those in for seven days only.

It is only those sent for a month?—For a month or fourteen days.

Can you tell the Committee what number you have had of late?—It has been very few of late.

How many?—I cannot say the average; I have but six disorderly women now.

What has been your average number?—I had at one time a hundred.

Mrs. Mary Bolland.

At what period?—Two years ago last Christmas.

How do you deal with the refractory?—I have never had any very refractory; but when they are, I have sent to the porter, and he has locked them up for a day.

Can you account for the diminution in number?—I cannot indeed; they have certainly not improved.

Was there not, two years ago, a much greater activity in those persons whose duty it is to clear the streets of women of that description than takes place at present?—I thought so, from the number I had.

In the one case giving you one hundred, and in the other case only six?—I have only six at present.

What time were the one hundred sent for?—They were sent for a month.

All at once?—No, twenty or thirty at a time.

In what manner do you allow those persons to be visited by their friends?—I have nothing to do with that; the porters will speak to that.

You are not allowed to interfere?—I do not know that I am; but I have sometimes been afraid that some of the visitors may not be very good people; when I have wanted to inflict a punishment, I have given orders that the visitors should not come till such time as that order was rescinded, or, in cases of theft, till the property stolen was restored.

Can you tell the Committee in what manner visiting is allowed?—Two days in a week.

For what time each day?—I think from twelve to one, or half after; I am not quite sure as to the period of time.

Do you mean, people are admitted at the commencement of that time, and turned out at the expiration of it?—Yes; there is a door opens from the prison into the chapel, and there is a grating, and the visitors are admitted into the chapel.

Do you allow any provisions to be brought in to the prisoners?—It has been forbid, and I never allow it, if I know it, and I do not know that it has taken place.

Is porter or spirituous liquors ever brought in?—I do not think it is done; I must have seen the effects of it if it had.

Have you never seen any in a state of intoxication?—No.

During the time you had one hundred together, have you never seen any intoxicated?—No, never; they always behave very well to me.

Had you accommodation for that hundred persons?—There are twenty-six chambers or cells; I cannot say the exact size, but quite large enough for one person; some are larger than others.

Can you tell the Committee, at a rough guess, how many people could be conveniently lodged in those rooms; how many in the largest?—Never more than two; when I had this large number, I never put but two together.

How then did you accommodate the hundred?—There were partitions made to contain so much straw for each one.

Where?—In two large rooms above stairs; one was a night room for the vagrants, and the other the day room for the vagrants, and partitions were put round the sides of those rooms to accommodate the number.

How many were in each of those rooms?—Twenty-five in each.

What size were the rooms?—Large rooms.

Thirty feet long?—I have not any idea of the size, but much larger than this room.

In fact, you had accommodation by those arrangements for one hundred persons?—Yes.

What became of the vagrants?—We could not separate them then; they were all together; that happened at a time when we had not so many vagrants.

Do you separate the vagrants now from the persons committed for punishment?—I have not been able to do it since the machines have been there, because the room for that purpose has been taken up by the machines.

So that now the vagrants and disorderly are together?—Not exactly so; but those that are there for seven days are with the vagrants, when they are out of their chambers in the daytime only a small portion of the day; when they are at their dinner, they frequently get it down in the kitchen instead of being with the vagrants; they do not like each other much.

You have stated, that the bedding is straw put in a palliasse; has each cell or chamber a bed of that description?—Yes, but not the place which I am now speaking of; where the partitions are made it is all loose straw.

Was not that woman of the name of Casey lying upon loose straw the other day, when

Mrs. Mary Bolland.

when she was visited by the Committee?—She might be at that time, because she came in as a vagrant; till she was removed into the infirmary she must lay there.

The vagrants have nothing but loose straw?—And two blankets and a rug.

Are those persons who are confined for seven days, confined in the same chambers with those who are there for a month?—Yes, if they are disorderly, certainly.

But they are not employed at work?—No, the gentlemen themselves considered they would perhaps do more harm than good at work; they most of them come in under the influence of liquor, and they lay a-bed the next day with the head-ache, for it is drinking makes them so disorderly.

Where do they pass their day?—In their chamber.

Locked up all day?—No, there are stated times when they come out; they come out to wash themselves, and eat their breakfast.

Where do they eat their breakfast?—In the room or the kitchen, which they please.

How long are those who are in for seven days, confined in their chamber?—The same as those who are in for a month, unless they are at work.

At what time are they locked up?—At six o'clock.

At what time are the doors unlocked?—Seven, or soon after.

Soon after seven, is every person admitted to go out of their cells?—Yes, to wash themselves and get their breakfast; at nine they are locked up again, or set to work.

Those then that are in for seven days, who are not set to work, are locked up?—Yes.

At what hour are they again let out?—At twelve.

For how long?—Till two.

And then locked up again?—Yes.

Till when?—Till four.

Then let out till six, and at six locked up for the night?—Yes.

In winter and summer?—No, in winter when it is dark.

For what months in the year are they locked up from six in the evening till seven in the morning?—I should suppose from February to November.

From November to February at what hours are they locked up?—That depends upon the light; about four, I should think; there is no light allowed in the prison.

Is there any airing yard, in which they can walk?—No.

Neither the disorderly nor the vagrants?—No, there is not.

Have they a fire in the room in which they work?—Yes, and in the room in which they sit as well, and in the kitchen.

Is there any mode of warming the cells by flues, or by additional fires?—No, only by the general fire.

In the winter time, are those who do not work, and who are locked up, let out of their cells to warm themselves?—Yes.

During all the day?—No, I am obliged to put them up sometimes; but we could not keep them locked up all day.

Are the fires large enough to warm all the persons that are confined there, when you had 100, for instance?—Then I had fires in every place that I could.

Are these chambers boarded?—Yes, all.

Glazed?—Not all the vagrant room is not.

Do they communicate with the outer air?—They have a window shutter, but they are not glazed.

Are they lighted from without?—Yes.

Do they complain of cold?—Sometimes, in winter time, they do.

While sleeping?—No, not while sleeping.

Are the chambers damp?—Not at all.

Do you know an instance of a person suffering from chilblains?—Not much; some of the young ones have.

Do you wash them when they come in?—There is no bathing for them?

Are there any tubs?—No.

You are ordered to see that there are two tubs for warm and cold bathing, and that the prisoners should be washed and cleaned on coming into the prisons, and you have no tubs to bathe them in?—No, nor ever has been since I have been there; they are washed; I have a washing-tub, and I send them down with a piece of soap to wash their face and hands; it is very necessary when they come in.

Is the prison plentifully supplied with water?—Yes, on the basement story.

There is none on the upper story?—None. I would wish to add, that the vagrants in general will not work; they say they are not sent there to work; they will not do any thing for themselves.

Mr. William Lawrence.

Mr. *William Lawrence*, called in; and Examined.

YOU are surgeon of Bridewell Hospital?—Yes.

How long have you been so?—About three years, I think.

Are you appointed by the general body of governors?—Elected by the general body.

Have you any allowance for being surgeon?—Yes.

State what it is?—I was appointed surgeon of Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals, and I receive 110*l.* for both; 60*l.* for one, and 50*l.* for the other; but I do not recollect to which they individually apply.

State what attendance is required of you in Bridewell, confining yourself to that entirely?—I think the charge mentions, I should give necessary attendance to the prisoners who have accidents or are indisposed; I think that is the form. I am in the habit of calling there every other day, or daily, if there are persons who require my attendance.

Supposing you are not sent for, do you attend once in two days?—I usually do, if I should not be sent for.

Do you attend in any other cases except surgical cases?—I attend frequently in other cases, in consequence of living near the hospital; and Mr. Wallett being at a considerable distance, I have instructed the matron to send to me on any emergency, especially if it should happen in the evening.

That arises from the distance of the apothecary's situation?—I imagine chiefly so; I have always attended when I have been so sent for; the person who sends for me does not discriminate between surgical cases and others, although my duty is confined to surgical cases.

Suppose you prescribe for any patient, in case of medical attendance, how do you make up those medicines; are they done in the hospital, or sent to any other person?—The prescription is sent to the shop of a chemist who lives in Bridge-street; and I apprehend there is an arrangement between him and the apothecary, as to furnishing medicines so ordered.

Suppose the person should want a repetition of that medicine, they have to send that prescription again to the druggist?—Yes.

Does it frequently happen, that the patient you have attended one day, is attended the next day, when Mr. Wallett arrives, by him?—It happens so occasionally.

Have you any recollection of a female vagrant being ill of what she termed herself the flux, on the 10th of last month?—I believe the 10th was Tuesday; I saw a vagrant of the name of Casey, on the 11th (Wednesday,) about the middle of the day.

Describe the state you found her in?—She complained considerably of a pain in her bowels, and described the other symptoms which belong to a complaint in the bowels, and she complained very much of hunger and want of food.

Was this before her dinner or after?—I think it must have been after; I think it was soon after one o'clock.

Though she had had her dinner, she complained of a want of food?—I cannot speak accurately to her having had her dinner, but she did complain of hunger; it arose from my inquiring into her appetite; I asked her how her appetite was, and she said, very good, and that she was very hungry.

Was she in bed at that time?—No, she was up.

Sitting in the day room with the vagrants, or in the bed room?—I think she came down stairs to see me; she was up and dressed.

Did you prescribe for her at that moment?—I did not.

Did you order her to receive any thing?—I ordered that she should be supplied immediately with gruel and tea.

Did you understand the description of hunger in her complaint to you, arose from disease, or merely from want of food?—I considered it to arise from want of food.

You ordered gruel and tea to be given her that afternoon?—Yes, not conceiving, at that moment, that she wanted medicine; I thought she wanted food more than medicine.

Did you see her again afterwards?—Not that day; I directed that Mr. Wallett should see her when he came.

Then you considered her case as requiring some medical assistance by recommending her to see Mr. Wallett on his arrival?—I considered she laboured under a complaint of the bowels, and that before bed-time it might be desirable she should have something ordered.

Mr. William Lawrence.

Do you know whether Mr. Wallett came that evening?—I believe not; I am not certain.

When did you see the patient again?—I believe about eleven o'clock the following morning.

Had Mr. Wallett been there then?—No.

In point of fact, she had not had any medicine?—No, I think not; I then prescribed for her.

And your prescription was sent to the druggist's?—Yes.

Did you then find that her complaint had increased?—She appeared in the same state as when I saw her the day before, there was no material change in her complaint.

Is your prescription copied into any book in the place?—No; the prescription is written on a piece of paper, and sent over in that way.

Have you any visiting book in which your visits are entered?—Not for me; I do not know what there may be for the apothecary.

Had the patient's bowels been so disordered that she had had constant evacuations?—She described her bowels to be in that state.

She described to this Committee, on Wednesday the 11th of March, when they visited Bridewell, that she was in that state that it absolutely passed from her as she laid upon the straw; and she appeared in such a state at that moment, that the Committee directed medical attention should be immediately administered to her?—That must have been a mistake; for when I saw her on Thursday morning, in consequence of the complaint she made, I examined her person, to see whether there might be any local cause for the pain she complained of; I found that there was none, and that her person was not at all smeared with discharge, or presented any other appearance that would necessarily have accompanied that constant discharge she spoke of, if it had taken place; neither her person nor her straw were at all dirtied.

Did you notice that she was without a shift at that time?—I think she was, but I am not certain; I cannot speak accurately to that.

Suppose she had been without a shift, would it not, in such a case, have been absolutely necessary she should have a shift?—Certainly; the greater part of the patients whom I see there are without linen.

Do you ever, in such cases, order the matron to provide linen?—I have not the power to give such an order, or the matron to enforce it, if I did.

In cases of absolute necessity, should you not conceive it to be your duty to give such an order?—If I conceived that the use of linen was absolutely necessary to the surgical case, I should order it.

On the Thursday morning, when you prescribed for her, was she removed to the infirmary?—She was lying in the infirmary.

Is that a room constantly used as an infirmary?—No, but seldom employed.

Is it called an infirmary because it has been so at one time?—I suppose that is the only reason; it is the purpose to which it is occasionally put.

You do not understand that there is any real infirmary?—None but this; if patients are in such a state as to render it necessary they should be separated, they are then moved into this room.

When did you last see a patient in that infirmary, previous to the one in question?—It may have been some months.

Have you any recollection of ever seeing a patient there before?—Several, and have attended them there myself.

Has it been in cases of any particular fever, or any particular complaint, or any accident?—The cases of fever do not come immediately within my department; the instances that I have attended myself have been such as come under the description I have given, who have required separation for particular attention, from the severe nature of their complaint.

Bad venereal cases, for instance?—I think one or two of that kind may have been there; I do not immediately recollect the particular cases.

Is there any comfortable bedding allotted for patients in the infirmary, differing from the other bedding in the house?—I think they have straw, with blankets and coverlets.

Have they not wool mattresses?—I am not quite certain.

Are there sheets allowed?—I think not.

Is the straw loose?—I cannot speak to that fact; it must have come frequently under my observation, but not having my attention particularly drawn to it, I never took notice.

Are

Mr. William Lawrence.

Are they wooden bedsteads in the infirmary?—Yes; I speak of the obvious external part of the bedding, what is the under part I cannot speak to.

Was there any fire allowed to this woman in her illness?—When I went to see her on the Thursday morning, there was a good fire in the infirmary, and it has been always the custom to have a fire there when a patient is ill.

State to the Committee, whether it is your opinion that there ought to be an infirmary, in which patients ought to be placed in all cases of sickness?—I consider the accommodation afforded in this infirmary sufficient for the cases that require medical aid that come to Bridewell, I mean in the case of such a patient as the present, who came for a week; that the accommodation provided for her, and the treatment she received, were, in my opinion, amply sufficient for the case.

In cases of very bad venereal, are they not offensive to other persons who are in health?—The condition of all the patients who come there is more or less offensive; they are extremely dirty and filthy; there are very few who come there who are not.

Have not many cases of a contagious or infectious kind occurred?—I never recollect any case of that kind occurring.

Have you never had cases of the small-pox or measles, or scarlet fever, or putrid fever, or typhus?—Neither small-pox or measles, or scarlet fever, nor any case that could be called typhus.

Had you not a few months since, when there was a considerable degree of typhus prevailed, any patients who might be considered in that situation?—There were some patients under Mr. Wallett who had a degree of fever, but not what they call typhus.

Was it not infectious?—I did not attend those cases, and cannot speak to that point.

Have you the power of ordering anything you think necessary?—Every thing in the nature of food.

Are there any bathing tubs allowed for the prisoners?—I think not.

Or any place in which the prisoners can be cleansed?—They are supplied with soap, and there are pans and basins for water, which they can employ.

How are medicines furnished; by whom?—They are furnished either by the apothecary, Mr. Wallett, who sends them to the hospital, where they are kept by the matron, and given out as ordered; or in a case of a sudden description, and which cannot be furnished from that supply, the prescription is sent to the chemist in Bridge-street, opposite to the prison.

They are not furnished by contract?—No, they are got from Apothecaries Hall.

What is the average number of sick in the hospital?—I can only give a mere conjecture; there are sometimes none, and sometimes there may be six or eight; I should have to see perhaps a greater number under Mr. Wallett's care.

Within the last twelve months, how many cases have you attended?—I keep no register of the cases.

Is there any book kept in the hospital, in which the names or the diseases of the persons who are sick are entered?—None, that I know of.

You have said that you attend generally every day; is there no general order, requiring your attendance at any given time?—I have mentioned, that the order says I am to give necessary attendance; it is not at particular times in the week.

Does your attendance at the hospital interfere with your general practice?—No, not at all.

Have you attended to the quantum of diet they have?—I have understood that there is a quartern loaf divided into six; but when patients are under my care, I order for them what I think necessary, such articles at least as gruel, milk, tea, or porter, or even port wine, if there was a case requiring it.

Do you think the common quantum of food sufficient for them when in health?—I should conceive the ordinary allowance rather a scanty one; I should not like to be on such an allowance myself.

As a medical gentleman, would you consider it sufficient?—I should think it a scanty allowance.

Is the prison well warmed?—I think I have not observed any defect in that respect.

Have you never had those complaints to cure, which you imagined proceeded from cold?—No.

Any rheumatism?—There are many who come in in that state, but none acquired in the hospital.

Are you aware that each prisoner is allowed 3 pints of table beer per day?—Yes.

Do you think that necessary?—I think not.

Would less beer and more food be better?—I think it would.

Lunæ, 6° *die Aprilis*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. John Poynder, called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Poynder.

ARE you Clerk to Bridewell Hospital?—I am.

How long have you filled that situation?—Upwards of thirteen years.

Were you elected by the governors generally?—By the general body of governors.

Have you the Charter of that hospital with you?—I have a copy of it in Latin and English.

Will you state the substance of it to the Committee?—It appears to me that the following Extracts will show to the Committee the object of that Charter.

> " Edward the Sixth, by the grace of God, King of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, and on earth of the Church of England and Ireland, the Supreme Head. To all persons unto whom this present writing shall come, greeting: Forasmuch as we, mercifully considering the miserable estate of the poor, fatherless, lame, aged, sick, sore and weak, inflicted with divers and sundry kinds of diseases; and considering the honest and godly endeavours of our most humble and obedient subjects, the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the city of London, who diligently by all manner of means and ways, study and travel for the good provision of the aforesaid people, and for every sort of them; and that in such wise that neither the children, being yet in their infancy and tender age, shall lack honest bringing-up and watching, neither when they shall be of riper years shall they be destitute of honest means and occupations, wherein to exercise and occupy themselves, as well to their own commodities, as also to the commodity and profit of the commonweal; neither that the sick and diseased persons, when they shall, by their charitable provisions and means be recovered and restored unto health, shall then again, as slothful and idle persons, be permitted to beg and wander abroad as vagabonds, to the displeasure of Almighty God and grief of good people, but that they shall also be forced to practise and exercise themselves in honest and profitable sciences and occupations: Wherefore know ye, that we, as well for the consideration aforesaid, of our special goodness, certain knowledge and mere motion, desiring not only the furtherance, amplifying and increase of so honest and noble a work, but also having vouchsafed to take upon us the name and patronage of this most excellent and laudable foundation now for evermore to be established; we have therefore given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant unto the mayor and commonalty and citizens of our city of London, all that our manor, chief messuage, tenement and mansion-house called Bridewell, alias Bridewell Place, with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances set, lying and being in the parish of Saint Bride, in Fleet Street in London; and all and singular houses, buildings, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services, chambers, curtilages, gardens, void grounds, places, spaces, ways, easements, profits and commodities whatsoever, to the said house called Bridewell Place in anywise appertaining and belonging, or as parts, members or parcels of the same heretofore have been counted, known or been letten; and also all manner of parsonages, tithes, oblations, revenues, pensions, provisions and other tithes whatsoever, of what kind, nature or sort soever they be or have been, or by what manner of names they be known, judged or reputed, unto the same late hospital lately belonging and appertaining, and lately being parcel of the same possessions and revenues of the said late hospital; excepted, and always unto us and our heirs reserved, the chief and head messuage of the said late hospital, called the Savoy House, with the site and church of the same, with the houses, buildings and tenements unto the said chief messuage and site adjoining, called the Savoy Rents. We have also given and granted unto the said mayor and commonalty and citizens of the city of London aforesaid, and to

Mr. John Poynder.

to their successors, for the further sustentation of those poor which shall be maintained within our said manor of Bridewell, all and all manner of implements and necessaries belonging and appertaining, as well to our said house of Bridewell, as all and singular buildings, utensils and necessaries lately belonging and appertaining unto our said late hospital of the Savoy, by what name soever they are or may be called; excepted and to us reserved, one great bell and one small bell now remaining and being in the chapel of our said hospital, and one chalice for the administration of the communion, and other necessary implements and things to be had and occupied in the said chapel for Divine service and administration of the sacrament there.——And furthermore, of our special grace, and by our kingly authority, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted for us, our heirs and successors, as much as in us is, and by these presents we do give and grant unto the said may or and commonalty and citizens of London aforesaid, and their successors for ever, and to the greater part of the same, liberty and authority that they the said mayor and commonalty and citizens for the time being, may at all times and always hereafter, when and as often as it shall be thought unto them convenient, or necessity shall so require, to ordain, constitute and make all manner of decrees, convenient, wholesome and honest ordinances, statutes and rules for the good government of the poor in the said manor or house called Bridewell Place, to be supported, or in those other houses called Christ and Saint Thomas's Hospital in Southwark aforesaid, or any of them, as unto them shall seem good; and also full power and authority to examine all and singular persons idly wandering within the city aforesaid and liberties of the same, and to compel them to occupy and exercise themselves, according unto their powers, in honest labours and work."——And after the formal granting part, it thus concludes: " And moreover we give and grant, for us, our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, commonalty and citizens of our city of London aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, that it shall and may be lawful as well unto the said mayor and commonalty and citizens for the time being, as also unto such as the said mayor, commonalty and citizens aforesaid shall appoint and ordain from time to time to be officers, ministers and governors under them, of the said manor or house called Bridewell Place, or of those other houses or hospitals appointed for the poor as is before declared, and unto two or three of them, from henceforth from time to time, as well within the liberties of the city of London aforesaid and suburbs of the same, as within our said county of Middlesex, to search and examine diligently, by all ways and means that can be best devised, according to their wisdom and discretions, for all and all manner of suspicious houses, taverns, alehouses, diceing-houses, plays, games, dancing-houses, and other places whatsoever they be, as well within the liberties as without, and places exempt, whatsoever they be, within the said city and suburbs of the same, or within our aforesaid county of Middlesex, by whatsoever names or titles they or any of them be or shall be called, named or expressed; and also to search, inquire and seek out all and all manner of houses by any means suspected to be harbourers or receivers of idle ruffians, tavern haunters, vagabonds, beggars or any other suspected persons; and also for all persons of evil name and fame whatsoever they be, men or women, and the same ruffians, tavern haunters, vagabonds and beggars, and persons of evil name and fame, not only to apprehend within the said suspected houses, liberty or liberties, and other places exempted within the said city and suburbs of the same, or within the said county of Middlesex, but also the inhabitants, masters, landlords and keepers of such houses and places, where any such or such like are or shall be found, and the same to send and commit to the House of Occupations in Bridewell, or by any other way or means to punish them and every of them as shall be thought good and meet by their discretions, unless the tenants, masters and landlords and keepers of such houses and places, can honestly and fairly excuse and discharge themselves before the mayor and aldermen of the said city for the time being, or before the officers, ministers and governors appointed under them of the said hospitals, and show reasonable and honest matter why they harbour, nourish or suffer such idle ruffians, suspected persons and vagabonds to lodge, haunt or frequent their houses; and

Mr. John Poynder.

> and also except such and such like suspected persons and vagabonds, being so taken, can sufficiently and fully declare for their honest and good conversation, and give a just account by what way or means he or they do live, and for what cause he or they wander abroad, and daily do frequent such suspicious houses or lurking corners and places prohibited, and also can find sufficient surety that they and every of them shall thenceforth bear and behave themselves honestly."

What estates are left for the support of the hospital?—I feel myself at a loss how to answer that question in that minute and precise way that I should desire; but I can, if the receiver and accountant of the hospital would furnish me with it; but he would be able to explain it more fully.

Can he also speak to the general appropriation?—Both to the receipt and expenditure.

Under the extract which you have just read, that is, the commencement and conclusion of the charter, the governors exercise their powers at present?—They do.

Do you feel it your duty to receive persons from the different magistrates of the city of London, who commit prisoners and vagrants to Bridewell under the same authority?—We do; adding also the Vagrant Act of the 17 George II.

Is Bridewell mentioned in the Vagrant Act?—No otherwise than as a house of correction generally.

Can you speak of the present state of Bridewell, and the accommodation of the various disorderly persons committed there?—There are twenty-four cells on the male side, and twenty-six on the female.

What is the size of those cells, beginning with the male side?—They vary; the largest is 8 feet 6 by 9 feet 8, and the smallest 7 feet 7 by 9 feet 8; the height of most is about 10 feet.

Could you confine two or more persons there?—I think only two in each.

And not more in any one instance?—Certainly not.

Have you any other separate apartment for apprentices?—There are distinct apartments for the apprentices received from the chamberlain.

How many are there of those?—There are eight light and two dark ones.

Are there any distinct apartments for persons sent from the sessions for three or six months under the Vagrant Act?—They have also cells allotted to them; they are included in the number I have before mentioned.

Have you spoken of all the accommodation on the male side, as to cells for disorderly persons only?—The vagrant passes have a distinct accommodation.

Having the accommodation you have now stated for disorderly persons, in what manner and for what length of time are they committed?—Various periods.

State the length of the periods?—Some come for seven days, some for a fortnight, others three weeks, and some for a month; reputed thieves, under the Vagrant Act, come for two months, and so up to six. There are very few prisoners whose term exceeds a month.

Do you employ them in any labour?—We do employ them, but in very little.

What is the species of labour?—I fear at the present time almost nothing.

Are they not committed to hard labour?—They are.

What was the labour which they formerly did perform?—Beating hemp and picking oakum.

Is there none of that employ for them at present?—They have not picked oakum since last Michaelmas, and have long been without hemp in the prison.

Can you give any reason why they are not better employed?—When I have inquired of the porter and porter's man, who are here in attendance, they have always stated it is difficult to obtain work. Hemp is now beat by machinery, and they state that oakum cannot be procured.

Have you had any committee of governors to consider of the necessity of employing those persons?—We have; we have a weekly committee, who have often had the subject under their consideration.

Have they made any report upon it?—They frequently report that the prisoners are without work, but they find the greatest difficulty in procuring any.

Are the prisoners who are committed there, such as shoemakers and tailors, generally engaged in their own trade?—I am not aware of that.

Are you of opinion that the greater proportion are such persons who have been brought up to no trade at all?—I should fear that was the case.

At what ages are the prisoners committed as disorderly?—I hardly know how to answer

Mr. John Poynder.

answer that question, there are such various ages; but I would say generally from 10 years old and upwards.

Are a considerable proportion between 10 and 20?—I should rather think between 10 and 30.

Could you furnish to the Committee an account of the number of persons that have been committed within these last three years, classing them under their different ages?—Certainly.

Can you state to the Committee what attempts, if any, have been made to employ those disorderly persons?—Before I came into the hospital, I understood a hand corn-mill had been introduced, but without success; since I have been there it has been a personal object with myself, if possible, to introduce work, but I have always been informed that the attempt was hopeless, on account of the short period that the prisoners are confined.

You say you are informed those attempts have had no success; have you had any personal observations of the effect of those attempts?—Those attempts were made before I was clerk.

Then you mean to inform the Committee, that since you have been in your present situation in the hospital, no attempt has been made to employ the disorderly men?—None, beyond picking oakum and cleaning the prison.

What is the weight of oakum that each prisoner was compelled to pick?—From four to six pounds per day; more of wet oakum than of dry could be picked in warm weather, but less in cold.

Supposing tailors or shoemakers should be committed as disorderly, if they choose to work at their respective trades, are they so permitted?—I have never yet heard of such an application being made.

Do you know whether any proposition to work has been made to persons engaged in those trades who have been committed to Bridewell?—I have never heard of any such.

The Committee have been asking you questions about the work that ought to be provided for those persons who are sentenced to hard labour; they would now inquire whether any moral instruction is furnished them, independent of their going to church on a Sunday?—Yes, the chaplain attends frequently in the prison, and converses with the prisoners, and distributes books to them.

Is there any school in the prison?—Not any.

Do the children attend Divine service on a Sunday?—Within the prison they do.

Is there a chapel within the prison?—Yes, there is a chapel within the prison: the following are the rules: the chaplain is to preach one sermon and to read prayers twice on every Sunday, Christmas-day and Good Friday, at the usual hours, that is, eleven in the forenoon and three in the afternoon; and to read prayers and preach once on every 30th of January, 29th of May, steward's feast, general fasts and thanksgiving days; and also to read prayers in Lent and at general courts; to solemnize marriages, to baptize children, visit the sick, bury the dead, and keep a register as well for the precinct as for the hospital; to read the charge to every governor in open court; to attend the chapel-wardens on all collections to be made for briefs and the king's letter; to reside constantly at the hospital, and not to go out of town without leave of the president or treasurer; he is particularly to admonish and instruct the prisoners from time to time; to read prayers and the exhortation already provided, or preach a sermon once every Sunday, and to read prayers on two other days in the week, in the prison chapel; on all which occasions he is to wear his usual officiating dress, and to see that such prisoners as are able and proper do always attend Divine service; to examine every boy intended for an apprentice, before he is placed on liking, and to report to the committee the nature of his education and attainments; to instruct the apprentices in their religious duty; to catechize them frequently during the four first years of their servitude, and generally to perform all the duties incident to the sacred office of a minister of the church of England and a chaplain of Bridewell Hospital and precinct.

You have read to the Committee the instructions which the clergyman receives; does he obey those instructions to the letter?—I have every reason to believe so; I have never heard otherwise; and judging from his general conduct, I trust I may be permitted to say so without knowing the fact.

Is it your opinion that the disorderly men committed to Bridewell are reformed?—In a very few instances.

So that the greatest proportion of persons who are committed for hard labour are not so employed, and do not go out better for their confinement?—As to the question

Mr. John Poynder.

so far as labour is concerned, I fear it must be admitted; so far as moral reform is concerned, I hope more from the exertions of the chaplain.

Do you often have the same persons recommitted?—We do.

Both male and female?—I understand so.

Do you happen to know whether any of the males at any time are committed as many as 10 or 20 times?—I have never heard of such an instance.

But you will state generally, that repeatedly the same persons have been committed?—I apprehend more frequently it takes place with respect to the females than with the males.

Is the want of room, in your opinion, one of the reasons why the employment of disorderly men becomes difficult?—I apprehend not.

If a person is committed for a few days, is he put to labour?—Except in picking oakum, when it can be procured, he is not, otherwise than as cleaning and washing the house may be considered labour; so far he is employed.

At what hour in the morning are the cells opened?—At half past six in the morning the whole of the disorderly are let out, and remain together till half past nine, when they are locked up separately; at twelve, when their meals are served, they are unlocked, and again locked up at two, except on chapel days, when they are not locked up till chapel is over; they remain locked up till four, when they are let out till seven or half after, when they are locked up separately for the night.

Is the allowance for the males the same as that of the females?—I understand it to be the same.

Are the male prisoners often destitute of clothes, and in a ragged condition?—They are.

Do you clothe them during the time they are in the prison?—We do not, except in extreme cases of want; although there is no specific fund for that purpose, we do occasionally order shoes, stockings, shifts or petticoats, for those absolutely without.

Do you permit them to take away those articles you furnish, or do they restore them when they quit the prison?—They take them away, and it is for the very purpose of covering their nakedness that we give them to them.

Have you any place for them to take exercise in?—None, except the burial ground; they were allowed to go there occasionally, till an escape of a prisoner induced greater caution.

Are the keepers obliged to attend them during the time they are there?—Yes.

Is there any property in the neighbourhood that could be purchased to give more room?—I very much fear that we can purchase none; we abut upon two sides upon property belonging to the Dorset family; and from recent inquiries, I fear the Duchess cannot sell; on the third side we abut on Dorset-street; of course it is impossible to enlarge that way, and the fourth side is the hospital.

You have before spoken of the number of cells for the males; what accommodations are there for the disorderly women?—Twenty-six cells.

Will each of those contain more than two persons?—No, not more than two, as a general question; but a few cells are of larger size, and might contain three.

Have you at any time put more than two into each cell?—Not to my knowledge.

It appears, in the beginning of the year 1814, there were only 15 cells on the female side for disorderly women; how happens it that they have since been increased?—We added eleven cells in consequence of the application of the city, and under the expectation that many more prostitutes would be sent to us, which was the fact.

You are speaking of the period in which great pains were taken to suppress what was then considered a great nuisance?—Yes; I am speaking of the period of 1814.

You have stated that there were 26 cells for females; are there generally two women confined in each?—Not generally confined in each, unless our numbers render it necessary; at present we have not occasion for so many.

What is the greatest number of female prisoners that you recollect you have had in the hospital, as disorderly?—Scarcely fewer than 100, if those commitments of prostitutes are to be deemed disorderly, who were sent to us in the year 1814, to be imprisoned for a month, and then to be passed to their respective parishes. This practice was discontinued after the mayoralty of the honourable member in the chair. [Mr. Alderman Wood.]

Have you ever placed three in a cell at any one time?—Not to my knowledge.

Have you any rule to regulate their admission?—None.

Mr. John Poynder.

You hold yourselves bound to receive all that the magistrates send you?—We never have refused a single commitment.

From your observation, do you think that the women, in point of moral reformation, are better when they are discharged from the prison than the men?—I should fear in very few instances.

Have you ever heard of an instance of a person being committed from 18 to 20 times?—I have not myself heard of the fact, but I can very well believe it.

What work are the women employed at?—In picking oakum generally, when it could be procured, and latterly at the flax machines.

What portion of their earning do they receive from the flax machines?—At present they are allowed a penny in the pound weight of flax. This is intended to be raised.

Does that species of work succeed?—We have every reason to hope it will; but the experiment is as yet in its infancy.

Is that a species of work that gives any occupation to the mind as well as the body?—I think not; it is very mechanical.

Does the clergyman attend the female prisoners in the same manner as you have stated before he does the males?—He does.

Does he go there daily?—The rule prescribes three attendances a week, but when sick the attendance has been more frequent. Of late our officiating chaplain has been ill for some period of time; he cannot therefore personally go.

How long has he been ill?—I think not less than a twelvemonth.

Is there an assistant who attends as regularly as he used to do?—The reverend Mr. Puckle is the assistant, and I have no doubt he attends as regularly as Mr. Budd used to do.

Was that attendance a daily attendance?—Not daily. The prescribed duty of the chaplain, already stated, will show the periods of his regular attendance; but he has always attended when wanted.

Is there a school for the female prisoners?—Not any; perhaps I ought to say, rather, there is no school recognized by the governors; but probably the ladies of the Guardian Society may have attended to those wants of the hospital. Their services in the prison have been of a most important nature, in removing several into their institution, when they have shown a disposition to reform.

You mean to state that there is no school provided by the institution?—Certainly not.

Will you state to the Committee generally, whether there is any classification of the male and female prisoners?—I apprehend not.

So that it might happen that a girl of fourteen years of age, who has been upon the town two months, might be put with a person of fifty-four years of age, who might have been upon the town thirty years?—I have no doubt that in such a case the matron would prevent them associating together. I have known instances in which she has done so.

Has she the means of preventing their association?—No otherwise than by confining them separately.

Are they not all together during the day?—Only during such hours as they are out of their cells, which are the same hours as in the case of the male prisoners, or as nearly as possible.

Are the vagrants separated from the other prisoners?—Only during such period of the day as the disorderly prisoners are locked up; at other times of the day they are together, but not during the night.

Is there any instance of the separation of the more hardened offenders from the others?—I believe not; except, as I have before stated, in reference to cases of the worst description.

With respect to the women, can you speak in respect to the manner in which they receive visits from their friends?—Their friends visit them twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays; they remain about an hour each time.

What are the numbers of vagrants that can be accommodated in Bridewell?—I apprehend about fifty: the day-room for male vagrants is 15 feet by 27; there are three sleeping rooms, one 16 feet by 18, a second, 15 feet by 28, and the third, 18 feet by 28; the female vagrants have two rooms as a day and night room, each 33 feet by 22, but on occasion of the numbers running large, they have slept in the day room as well as the other. The dimensions of the two work rooms for males, are, one 15 feet by 26, and the other 17 feet by 26; the dimensions of the work room for women, are 17 feet by 21.

Mr. John Poynder.

What accommodations are there for disorderly apprentices?—Cells are appropriated for their sole use, the number of which I have already mentioned.

How many cells are appropriated to that purpose?—Eight light and two dark cells.

What is the ordinary length of time for which those persons are committed?—The chamberlain measures the length of confinement by the nature of the offence: very bad cases are sent for three months; less culpable, for two months; and ordinary cases for one month, fourteen days, and seven days

Are they kept in solitary confinement during the whole of that time?—They are, except when they go down to wash in the morning.

Have they any means of taking the air out of their cells?—They never do take the air out of their cells.

What is the greatest length of time that you have known a lad shut up?—Three months.

Are there any inspecting persons generally, who go round the prison in the nature of visiting magistrates?—A sub-committee of governors meet weekly on Wednesdays, and then regularly visit the prison, recording their proceedings in a book kept by us for that purpose, which is constantly laid before the house committee, who either confirm or negative what is therein reported, as they think fit.

That is, supposing the book contains any recommendations of a change of practice, or any thing of that nature?—It always must contain the number of the male and female prisoners, and male and female vagrants of the day, and often contains recommendations of things proper to be done.

Was there not an application made to the governors of Bridewell in the year 1814, by the city of London, requesting information upon particular subjects?—There was.

What was the answer that was returned by the governors?—The first part of that answer declined to give the corporation a copy of a Report of 1798; I could state the reason, if the honourable Committee wish.

Why was that Report so refused?—Because it was a Report which, after there had been copies of it sent to all the governors, was not confirmed by the general court, nor ordered to be acted upon in any of its parts; it was therefore a document not accredited by the governors, and forming no part of their proceedings.

Are you a governor?—I am not; I cannot be, as an officer.

Were you present at the time in which that Report, of which the Committee is now speaking, was negatived by the governors at large?—I was not present; nor was I at that time clerk of the hospital; but I have referred to the court books for my information.

Do you know, from the books to which you have referred, why the governors refused to act on that Report, containing, as it does, many propositions which, it is impossible to deny, are very advantageous as general principles?—I do not know, from any official entry in the court books, of the reason of such refusal: but the chaplain of that day published a book upon the Report of 1798 which I have referred to; and I apprehend, the reason upon which the court decided against that Report was, that it assumed four documents as the basis of the constitution of Bridewell Hospital; viz. first, the Supplication of the poor to king Edward the 6th; secondly, the Declaration of the citizens of London to the Privy Council; third, the Indenture of Covenants which preceded the Charter; and fourthly, the Charter itself. Those four documents were considered, by the Report of 1798, as equally binding and obligatory on the governors; whereas the more correct opinion appears to be, that the Supplication of the poor, and the Declaration of the citizens, proposed many subjects, and suggested many objects for the attention of the King and his Council, which the Indenture of Covenant, and the Charter which followed, did not confirm or direct: the basis therefore of the constitution of the hospital, appears to rest upon the two last-mentioned documents; viz. the Indenture of Covenants and the Charter.

The governors having refused to act upon that Report, can you inform the Committee whether any and what alterations have taken place in the general management of the prison since the date of that Report, namely 1798?—In 1799 a mill for grinding drugs was introduced; but I find it was ordered to be sold by the January court of 1801, on a previous report that it did not answer the object of introducing it. In March 1802 the prison committee ordered a handmill for grinding corn. In September 1802, some hemp was recommended by that committee

Mr. John Poynder. mittee for beating, but it does not appear that this was followed up. The corn-mill is still in the hospital, but is rarely used.

Are there not persons resident in the house, who are called taskmasters or taskmistresses?—There are not, except the superintendant of the flax machines, who has been lately placed with the matron, may be considered a taskmistress.

Are there not persons that are called arts masters?—There are.

How many are there?—At this time, five.

What trades do they profess to teach?—A tailor, two engine weavers, who weave the narrow galloon ribbon worn for watches or shoe-strings, a printer, and a bookbinder. One arts master, who was a working silversmith, has lately quitted the hospital.

Were there any others within your recollection?—Within my recollection, one other.

Making seven in the whole?—Yes, making seven in the whole.

Who was that other?—His name was Stewart.

What was his trade?—He was an engine weaver. The court did not desire to continue more of that trade, it being not thought desirable.

How many apprentices have those arts masters?—There are twenty-eight at present in the house, and two out of it, who belong to Mr. Frisby, and who are finishing their times with another master.

How are those apprentices distributed; how many has each master?—The tailor has three, one engine weaver has four, the printer has seven, the bookbinder has eight, the other engine weaver has six, and there are two, as I mentioned before, finishing their time elsewhere.

For what time are the apprentices bound?—For seven years.

How many upon an average have served their time within your recollection?—Within my recollection very few have done otherwise than serve out their time.

Have you any account of what has become of them afterwards?—No, I have not.

What are Fowke's and Lock's benefactions?—They are devises to the hospital for payment of ten pounds each to apprentices, as rewards on quitting the hospital, and being likely to set up in trade.

Have those benefactions been constantly applied to that object?—They have.

Has the hospital any further account of the conduct of the persons receiving those benefactions after they have established themselves in business?—We never again officially hear of them; it frequently happens that we do know the way in which they are going on; but there is no rule by which we are necessarily cognizant of their conduct.

Is there any examination of the apprentices previous to the distribution of this benefaction?—Very rarely.

Upon whose recommendation are they given?—Upon the statement of their conduct during their apprenticeship, which is derived from their masters and from the steward of the hospital.

What is the salary of each of those arts masters?—They have no salary.

Is there no house provided for them?—There is.

Do they receive any fees or other emoluments?—None whatever.

Is the only advantage they derive from the hospital, that of being lodged in a house free of rent and taxes?—It is; together with the profits of the apprentices: the hospital clothes the boys, and the arts masters feed and instruct them.

In whose nomination are the boys so apprenticed?—We invariably receive those boys who come to us from Christ's Hospital, as conceiving, under our charter, we ought to give them the preference; we receive no other.

During your recollection, were there more apprentices than there are at the present period?—Speaking from recollection, there have been forty, and at this moment we desire another arts master to fill the vacancy of the silversmith.

Can you confirm the statement in the Report of 1798, as to the apprentices?—I cannot confirm it; but have no reason to doubt it.

It appears in the Report of 1798, "That during the preceding years, from 1767 to the 22d December 1798, there have been 173 lads apprentices to the arts masters; that of these there have been during the same period as many as 111 who have served out their time; of the remainder, 58 have run away, (some of whom are at sea,) four have died, and none now remain in the house:" can you furnish the Committee with a return of the same nature from 1798 to the present period?—I will furnish it if I am so enabled.

Mr. John Poynder.

Have the governors any discretion as to the term of years for which apprentices are bound?—I presume none, under the law relative to apprentices.

Can you inform the Committee what time is usually necessary, to qualify a man to exercise the trade of an engine-weaver?—Within the city seven years is necessary to acquire his freedom.

The witness misapprehends the question; the Committee mean, what time is necessary to give a man skill to exercise that trade?—I should presume, in that as in most other trades, seven years could not be necessary to impart a skill sufficient for setting up in any particular business.

Do you conceive that an obligation lies upon the hospital to bind the apprentices, and that they have no discretion to employ them, without putting them under the obligation of an indenture of apprenticeship?—I do apprehend that the hospital, if they will have apprentices such as the law defines apprentices to be, has no discretion.

The object of the Committee is to ascertain whether the hospital be obliged to bind apprentices or not, under the charter by which arts masters are appointed?—Adverting to the earliest court books we have, I find apprentices distinctly named as such: therefore I do presume that at that period they worked under arts masters and arts mistresses, which would not only be consistent with the intention of the charter, but with the earliest usage of the hospital.

Are you of opinion that the situation of an apprentice in Bridewell Hospital is much sought for?—To some of the trades in the hospital it is much sought for, especially to the printer and bookbinder.

Are you of opinion that each of those arts masters has as many apprentices as he can sufficiently teach?—Quite. I would beg to state in explanation of part of my evidence on the subject of arts masters and apprentices, that I have reason to believe in the origin of the hospital there were two classes, one consisting as now of arts masters and apprentices, and the other of task masters and task mistresses, with the casual working poor under them; it appears however, from a report of 1765, on the subject of arts masters and apprentices, as well as from my own reference to the court books, that since the period of the 43d of Elizabeth, when the Act passed for erecting parish workhouses throughout England, no task masters or task mistresses are recognized by the governors, or have any existence, but the arts masters and apprentices appear to have been mentioned from the origin to the present time.

Has the hospital any discretion, with regard to the time, with respect to which vagrants are confined in the hospital?—None whatever; we act under the warrant, and discharge them at the period of its expiration.

Do they ever punish them?—They are punished when the warrant so directs.

Is there any part of the warrant directing the nature of their provisions?—Yes, their provisions are directed by the warrant.

Is there any distinction made in diet and treatment, between the vagrants and the disorderly persons?—I am not aware of any in diet; the difference of treatment consists in the confinement, as before mentioned.

Are you acquainted at all with the fact respecting the quarter from which some beggars are committed to Bridewell; whether they are discharged from the hospitals or not?—I have no information upon the subject.

Does the hospital take in any convalescents from the hospitals, introduced as such into the hospital?—It does not; it is one of the points especially adverted to by the Report of 1798, but which appears to be capable of an answer, if the Committee will give me leave to go into it. From the nature of our establishment in the early origin of the charter, those vagrants who were taken from the streets were sent to be cured in the hospital of St. Thomas; when cured, they came to us for occupation, and the words of the Charter "*cum recurabuntur*," show that it was sick vagrants who were there intended; it has never been the interpretation of the governors that those words apply to general convalescents from hospitals, nor has the practice ever been to receive such.

You speak of general convalescents from hospitals, but in the former part of your answer you have stated that it was the usage to receive convalescents from St. Thomas's; will you explain that observation?—Only such convalescent vagrants as were first cured at St. Thomas's, in order that they might be able to work with us, appear ever to have been received.

You mean then, the Committee presume, convalescents from other hospitals were never received as such at Bridewell?—I do.

Is there not in the charter a general direction enjoining the governors of Bridewell

Mr. John Poynder. well Hospital to receive the sore and the sick?—I apprehend that direction forms a part of the declaration, but not of the charter.

What annual feasts are there at Bridewell, and at what expense?—The only annual feast at the expense of the whole body of governors, is one in July, which is entirely defrayed at the expense of twelve stewards, chosen from the general body of governors, each steward having afterwards the privilege of nominating a governor, who pays the sum of fifty pounds on his election, instead of a hundred pounds, which is paid by a stranger. There is a dinner at the charge of the hospital on Easter Monday; there never attend above thirty persons (including officers,) and this is now almost always held at a tavern in the neighbourhood; there is also one other dinner at the charge of the hospital, when the same number generally attend, and which takes place at the same tavern on St. Matthew's day in every year.

What is the usual expense of each of these dinners?—I apprehend that, to speak in rough numbers, it cannot exceed thirty pounds each dinner.

Is there any business dispatched upon those occasions?—On Easter Monday the governors, or such of them as choose to attend, go to hear the Spital sermon at Christ Church; and on St. Matthew's day they also attend to hear the annual orations at Christ's Hospital; the governors at large are never summoned to these dinners as such, but they are summoned to attend their duty, and such as attend that duty generally attend the dinner.

This has been the custom from the origin of the establishment, has it not?—It has been the custom from the original establishment of the institution. With the permission of the honourable Committee, I will hand in the following accounts, ordered by them, relating to the receipts and disbursements of Bridewell Hospital.

[*They were delivered in and read. See* Appendix No. 3.]

William Williams, Esq. called in; and Examined.

William Williams, Esq.

THE Committee understand you are a governor of Bridewell?—I am.

Are you upon any committee for the internal management of the hospital?—I have lately been put upon the house committee, or the general committee for the management of Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals.

Have you taken any steps in that committee with regard to labour for the prisoners in Bridewell?—I have.

Have the committee come to any general conclusion upon that subject?—I brought the subject of labour before the committee as soon as I was a member of it, and a sub-committee has been appointed for the purpose of introducing labour into the prison; we have not met very often. On the female side of the prison we have introduced some spinning machines, but on the male side there is no labour of any kind; we are under difficulty as to what labour we can introduce, for the greater part of the prisoners are committed only for seven days; the day they come in and the day they go out are reckoned as part of the period of their confinement; so that, including the Sunday, it leaves them only four entire days for work.

Those who are there for a longer period are not put to labour?—There is no labour on the mens side; the females are put to work on the spinning machines.

Have you not some prisoners committed for six months?—Yes, some few; but the greater part of our prisoners are vagrants, committed for seven days in order to be passed to their respective parishes.

Have you any yard for exercise?—There is no yard.

Perhaps you will state to the Committee the general state of Bridewell?—I can scarcely conceive any prison less adapted to the correction of crime, or more inadequate to its purpose, than Bridewell; it was instituted by charter in the reign of Edward VI, I believe in the year 1552; and the purposes of the institution were the employment of the necessitous and profligate poor, and the apprenticing of indigent children; I can speak, however, only from recollection.

Is the system adopted there suitable to all those purposes?—I conceive that the system, as far as it relates to the prisoners, is suitable only to one purpose in its present state, which is their confinement; no other end is answered but the safe custody of their persons in the prison-house.

Do the president and treasurer attend you upon the sub-committees?—I have never seen either the president or treasurer at any sub-committee of Bridewell: I think the whole constitution of the hospital might be much improved; the general committee of the hospital is an inefficient body; it is composed of forty-two governors,

William Williams, Esq.

governors, six of whom go out every year, and each member is elected for seven years, and he continues in the committee for seven years, whether he be an effective member or not; they are elected by the general court, but the governors in general are either so occupied by their own concerns, or so indifferent to the welfare of the hospital, that very few attend at the general courts, so that it becomes perhaps necessary for the president to name such gentlemen as he thinks will serve on the general committee; so that in point of fact it may almost be said that the president nominates the general committee.

Do you know whether the committee attend to their duty or not?—Some few are active, but the greater part never attend. It would be most expedient to make the committee more effective; every gentleman, in my opinion, ought to pledge himself, before he is put upon the committee, to regular attendance and active exertion, and should be re-elected at least once in three years. The committee meets regularly only once a month, and few of its members ever attend at the sub-committee. The sub-committee of Bethlem, which is a committee open to all the governors, is very effective, and has lately brought that hospital into an excellent system; but even this sub-committee would produce greater benefit, if it possessed more power; all its acts of any importance require the sanction of the house committee before they can be carried into execution, and as the house committee only meet once a month at Bridewell, and many of the members never even visit Bethlem, it is impossible for them to form any correct judgment upon the measures which may be recommended by the Bethlem sub-committee; I therefore consider that the constitution of both hospitals might be greatly improved. I have endeavoured to effect this, but hitherto without success.

Have you been at Bridewell yourself since you have been on the committee?—I have never missed going there every week when in London.

Do you know whether there is any moral instructions given to the prisoners?—I know of none except from the attendance of the chaplain, who officiates every Sunday, and two days in the week.

Do you know whether he attends every day?—I do not know; I have no reason to doubt that he does his duty.

Have you any reason to think that the prisoners go out from the prison improved in their morals, or otherwise?—I conceive it is impossible that their morals can be improved; they are locked up separately during the night, but during some parts of the day they associate together in one room: we are confined within very narrow walls, have no yards or outlets except a burial ground belonging to the prison; have no means of improving their morals, or of providing them with work. The number of prisoners committed is sometimes very large; this depends very much upon the activity of the chief magistrate of the city of London: during the last year the aggregate amount was nearly three thousand; this year we have very few.

Have the goodness to inform the Committee what are the functions of the several sub-committees?—The house committee is divided into three sub-committees; one of them meets every Thursday at Bethlem to admit patients, &c. and at this seven of the house-committee ought to attend in rotation. Another sub-committee is for Bridewell, and consists of seven; this is to meet every Wednesday at Bridewell, and make a report in writing of the then state of the prison, which is read at the monthly meeting of the house-committee. The third sub-committee is an audit committee, consisting of nine members. The president and treasurer are officially members of all sub-committees.

Have the goodness to inform the Committee what committees are now existing, in reference to the concerns of the hospital of Bridewell?—There is a general committee for both hospitals, Bridewell and Bethlem, who superintend both, consisting of forty-two; and they appoint a sub-committee, whose duty it is to attend once a week at Bridewell, and who lay their report before the house-committee, who meet once a month.

The sub-committee inspects the hospital in all its departments?—They superintend the whole; the persons to whom the governors principally trust are the treasurer and the steward, who ought to be constantly resident, and are especially appointed for the purpose.

Then the sub-committee rely upon their report, and do not inspect personally?—No, the sub-committee attend personally; the treasurer is the resident and responsible officer.

William Williams, Esq.

Is it your opinion that this sub-committee is fully sufficient?—I consider it very inefficient.

From what cause?—From the gentlemen being under the necessity of attending to their own business, and consequently being unable to give up their time to it; secondly, because they meet only at stated periods.

What course would you recommend for the complete superintendency and inspection of the hospital?—According to the chapter of the plan of the institution it must be under the inspection of the governors of the hospital; my first object, therefore, is to get a more efficient house-committee, and a more efficient sub-committee; for the purpose; I am desirous that each member, on his appointment, should pledge himself to a regular attendance: I could point out instances where a gentleman has been seven years upon the committee, and never attended upon the sub-committees, and very rarely, if ever, on the house-committee.

Have you now stated all that occurs to you generally, for the reformation of Bridewell?—This is the first object; without efficient committees no improvement can take place: I shall now have some hopes of accomplishing this, as I trust this investigation in Parliament will, as in the case of Bethlem, rouse the governors to exertion, though I am convinced no committee can make Bridewell adequate to its purpose.

Can you inform the Committee how far the arts masters do their duty?—I conceive they may do their duty, as far as their duty goes towards their apprentices; but I think that the establishment does very little good; I think the money might be much better laid out.

Can you inform the Committee what number of apprentices, brought up in Bridewell, are there maintained?—No, I cannot inform the Committee from memory.

How are the arts masters elected?—They are appointed by a general court of the governors.

Have you any reason to believe that they are competent persons to teach the trade to which they belong?—I can scarcely form any judgment one way or the other; as far as I know they do their duty.

Is there any distinction made between those apprentices who behave well, and those who do not, with regard to Fowke's and Locke's benefactions?—Yes, those who behave ill do not receive the benefactions, though I believe all are made free of the city.

Do the arts masters hold their places at pleasure?—I rather think they are subject to an annual re-election.

Has there been any instance of the dismissal of an arts master?—Not since I have been on the committee.

Do you conceive it would be possible to employ any considerable portion of the disorderly prisoners?—Not as our prison is at present established, as we really have no convenience for employment; we used formerly to make them beat hemp and pick oakum, but in consequence of the use of machinery we cannot get the hemp now.

Do you not think it must be very unhealthy, confining so many persons without air and exercise?—I should think so, though I consider the prison as well ventilated.

As for instance, persons being confined there for six months and having no employment?—I certainly think it is very unhealthy and improper; the establishment is, in my opinion, altogether inadequate to the purposes of such an institution.

Have you any regular infirmary in the prison?—There is a room set apart for an infirmary.

Do you know, whether it has been used as such?—It has when any cases have required.

Do you know, of your own knowledge, of a woman of the name of Casey being committed as a vagrant on Tuesday the 10th of March, and can you speak to the state that she was in?—No, I cannot, as I was out of town at the time she was committed, and did not return till she was discharged.

Is there any thing you wish to inform the Committee respecting that woman?—No; but I would wish to observe, with respect to the matron, that from my own observations on her general conduct, I conceive there would be no want of attention on her part towards the prisoner.

Are you aware that that woman was in a very bad state, and was even without a shift?—I was so informed.

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Is there any clothing regularly allowed by the governors?—The prison-committee, when they visit the hospital, occasionally order necessary clothing in cases of great urgency, but we feel ourselves aukwardly situated, for if we give, we too frequently only encourage idleness and profligacy. It is the object of those who are committed as vagrants to come into the hospital as bare of clothes as possible; if we supply them they sell their clothes when they go out, and get drunk with the money; this fact we have frequently known. When I first was in the habit of attending, I used to give more clothing than I have done since, and I have not ordered clothing lately but in cases of great necessity.

Do you think that the matron should have a power to give some clothing where it it wanted?—My own idea is, that we ought to have a dress for all the prisoners as soon as they are committed, for it is otherwise impossible to get rid of the vermin which the prisoners bring in with them. When they first arrive we wash them, but as soon as they have washed they put on their own clothing again, which harbours the vermin, and then they are never in a sufficient state of cleanliness; I am very anxious to have their clothing taken away, and, after being properly cleaned and fumigated, it might be restored when they quit the prison.

The apothecary attends, the Committee understand, both at Bethlem and Bridewell?—He does.

Do you not think it is a great inconvenience to the prisoners, being attended by a medical man who resides at such a distance?—I have never known any inconvenience to arise, but I think as there are an apothecary and surgeon, who attend both Bethlem and Bridewell, that it would be much better for one only to attend regularly at each place; the surgeon is frequently called in at Bridewell, and I believe that the apothecary goes there every day.

You have informed the Committee, that in your opinion Bridewell Hospital is mainly inefficient to its object, and you impute the cause in part to the want of a proper administration, the present committee consisting of persons who do not regularly attend; for that evil, you have suggested in some degree a remedy; but you also state that the hospital is not sufficiently spacious, that you have not room enough for a proper sub-division of persons there employed, and their proper employments: will you state whether you think it is possible to enlarge the present hospital?—I do not think it is without we were to get rid of all the arts masters, and pull down their houses and convert the whole space for the purposes of the prison, but this would be attended with a very great expense, what the hospital could not incur with the most efficient committee; it would not be possible to put the prison, in its present state, under proper regulation.

Do you think a Bridewell, built in another situation, would answer the purpose much better?—I do think so.

Is it your opinion that the buildings and site of Bridewell Hospital might be sold advantageously?—I have no doubt a very ready sale might be had for them.

And the proceeds of such sale might be employed in the erection of another hospital, which would answer much more efficiently the object of the foundation?—I cannot judge whether the proceeds would be sufficient to erect another prison, though I should think it would be attended with a very great additional expense, and which the hospital could not bear; I would, however, strongly advise the transfer of the whole of the present revenue of Bridewell to the funds of Bethlem hospital, where they are much wanted, and would be most advantageously employed.

Can you give the Committee any information concerning the property that has been left by will or otherwise, for the sole purpose of Bridewell Hospital?—I cannot; I have endeavoured for the last year to make myself master of that subject; I hope the next court will appoint an especial committee to take that particular subject under consideration.

The Committee have been informed, that the rental of the hospital is somewhere about 7,000*l.* a year; can you confirm that?—I conceive that to be generally correct.

Can you give the Committee any information how that has been devised?—No; I cannot; it is a point which I have been very anxious to get information upon.

Is there any thing more you wish to state to the Committee?—No; I have nothing more to state. I should wish to be understood as not meaning to throw any blame upon the present governors of the hospital; I apprehend that their attention has not been so fully called to the subject as my own.

From the very great number of poor persons that are sent for seven days to be passed,

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passed, according to the present law, the Committee ask your opinion whether they are persons, generally speaking, who ought to be so punished by seven days confinement?—I think an alteration of the law would be very desirable upon that point; I can see no good object which it answers. I believe Bridewell could not be put upon the footing I should wish to see it, without some alteration in the law respecting vagrants, and the mode of their commitment.

Is there any other legislative alteration you would suggest for the benefit of Bridewell?—It would seem desirable if the law would enforce a proper classification of the prisoners, and their regular employment, in every prison; I think it is an object of the utmost importance that the poor should be employed in prisons.

Then, if the law were altered so that the magistrates were enabled to pass poor people to their settlements, without their occupying so long a time in your place, you then would have a space sufficient to punish by labour the other prisoners who are there confined?—I do not think the present Bridewell could be made to effect even this object; I do think it is unwise to unite in one prison the reception of vagrants, and the finding of uniform employment to the other prisoners; they are so distinct in their character, that they ought to be confined in separate prisons, for the vagrants coming in day by day calls for a very different system to what the other prisoners do; therefore I think a house ought to be appropriated expressly for the reception of vagrants, if the law is to continue in its present state.

Mercurii, 8° *die Aprilis,* 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. Bolton Hudson.

Mr. *Bolton Hudson,* called in; and Examined.

THE Committee understand you are Steward and Receiver of Bridewell Hospital?—I am both.

How long have you been steward?—Twenty-nine years.

Have you been receiver during the whole of that time?—Of Bridewell, the whole period.

In the character of receiver, will you state to the Committee, the amount of your receipts, in the first place, and from what source they come?—I do not know that I am regular; but I will endeavour to answer the question from a paper which I hold in my hand: the receipts are taken from 1810 to 1816, including 1810.

What was the receipt in 1810?—5,823*l.* 16*s.*

Does that include every thing you receive for the use of Bridewell Hospital?—Yes; every thing that is received, excepting dividends and annuities from the public funds.

Can you tell the amount of those annuities?—They do not come into my hands at all; the treasurer receives the dividends from the public funds.

Then the whole receipts to which you allude were for rentals upon various estates?—Yes; the rents received were, in 1811, 6,331*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*; in 1812, 6,011*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* in 1813, 6,672*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.*; in 1814, 6,179*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*; in 1815, 6,948*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*; in 1816, 6,356*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*

Have you taken it up to 1816?—Yes; I have taken it up to Christmas.

Will you describe the kind of estates which they are; are they houses or lands?—At Christmas 1816, the estates in Bridewell Precinct amounted to 2,515*l.* 14*s.*

Do you mean houses?—Yes, belonging to the hospital.

Have you any particulars of the estates; are they freehold property, let upon lease to tenants, upon building leases, or otherwise?—They are principally grants from the Crown.

Then they are freehold?—Yes; the houses are let for different terms; land on building leases generally for sixty-six years; houses on repairing leases for seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years: those in Chatham-place, Bridge-street, will expire in about nineteen or twenty years.

At

Mr. Bolton Hudson.

At the expiration of the terms of those leases, will there not be a considerable increase of revenue arising from those houses to Bridewell Hospital?—Yes, unquestionably, with the exception of the Wapping estate, which has been much deteriorated from the introduction of the docks to that neighbourhood, which has diverted the trade: the houses in Chatham-place are at a ground rent of twenty pounds a year, and they probably would let at 150*l.*; I give that merely as my opinion; then in Wapping parish, the rental at Christmas 1816, was 3,752*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*; of houses in Holborn, 169*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*; in Fleet-street, 37*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*; estates in Oxfordshire, 428*l.*

In the property you have now described, are there any long leases;—very few, comparatively speaking.

In what number of years will that estate improve, and to what amount?—To a very considerable amount; of that I am satisfied, except as to Wapping, as before stated.

From what source do the annuities arise?—From the royal hospitals, parishes, and public companies.

Are those annuities permanent, at a fixed rate?—Yes; they amount to 100*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* The foregoing make the sum total, and which produce together 7,003*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*; the net receipt for one year up to Christmas 1816. At the same period there was 30,050*l.* three per cent. stock in the public funds; the dividends, amounting to 901*l.* 10*s.* are receivable by the treasurer; the sum that I have received is 7,003*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* as above stated. There are deductions from the rental, for land tax, insurances, allowances to tenants, &c. making together 594*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*; leaving a net income, including rents and dividends, as appears by the printed account at Christmas 1816, of 7,310*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* There were legacies and benefactions received in 1816 by the treasurer, amounting to 250*l.*; but of course such receipts are very uncertain. It appears that the revenue of 1791 amounted to 3,986*l.* 6*s.* 0¾*d.* being the net income; and in the year 1816 it was 7,310*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.* making an increase of 3,323*l.* 18*s.* 0¼*d.*

Can you inform the Committee upon what principle the distribution of the property takes place, between Bridewell, St. Thomas's, and Christ's Hospital?—No, I cannot do that.

Please to state to the Committee the various particulars of the expenditure?—The heads of expenses are, expenses attending vagrants; the arts masters and apprentices; distribution of Fowke, Lock, and Palmer's gifts; tradesmens bills, including the dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's day; workmens bills for repairs of the hospital; taxes in the hospital, and rent of burial ground; deductions from the rentals, viz. insurances, land tax, allowances to tenants, &c.; salaries and gratuities to officers and servants, and to those attending the vagrants, and clothing for the beadles; together with casual expenses, such as law charges.

In what manner are the expenses incurred as to vagrants?—For provisions for their maintenance, and for bedding, and the general expenses attending them.

Does that include any salary?—No.

State what is the daily allowance for vagrants, of the bread, &c.?—A quartern loaf of bread per day for six persons; on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, one pound of beef, without bone, boiled down to the consistency of ten ounces, with three pints of small beer.

Is that which you have spoken of last for each person?—Yes: the banyan days are, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays; they have the broth of the meat of the preceding day, thickened with rice; the quantity of soup allowed to each prisoner is three pints, and three pints of small beer.

Is that the whole of the allowance?—Yes.

When is that delivered out to them?—By the porter and porter's man.

The Committee mean, how many times a day is it served out to them; you have spoken of three pints of small beer and three pints of soup to each prisoner?—There is only one meal, and that is at twelve o'clock, at dinner, and they save what they can; but they have beer of a morning, I understand; but the witnesses in waiting are better able to inform the Committee.

Then they have no broth for breakfast, nor any delivery of provision?—No, only once a day.

Suppose a person should be brought in at two, or three, or four o'clock in the afternoon, would they have nothing delivered to them till twelve o'clock the next day?—They have bread and cheese and beer, if they come after that time.

Do the vagrants receive the same allowance as the other prisoners?—Equally the same.

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Then there is a uniform allowance throughout the prison?—Exactly so; it is regulated by an order of the general court.

Who supplies the prison with provisions?—The steward.

That is yourself, the Committee understand?—Yes.

Have you a contract for that?—Yes.

Will you state to the Committee the nature of your contract?—Eight-pence per head per day.

You engage, for the sum of eight-pence per day, to furnish each prisoner with that diet you have mentioned?—Just so.

Does that contract of eight-pence per day, include the bread?—No, it does not.

Who supplies the bread?—The governors of the hospital. In the year 1712, the hospital paid sixpence per head, and in the year 1758, they paid seven-pence; in 1796 the hospital paid nine-pence to the contractor; and in 1801, a penny was taken off; it was reduced to eightpence, and the hospital undertook to find the bread; so that from 1712 to 1817, there has been no rise comparatively to the dearness of provision.

Do you believe that the diet in the year 1712, was precisely the same as the diet in 1817?—I cannot say; but should suppose it is now superior.

Do you know by any entries, whether the quantities were the same?—No, it has been altered several times.

From the time of your appointment, which has been 29 years, as steward, have the quantities of provision been exactly the same?—No; the quantity was altered in 1801.

Then, from 1801 to the present time, has the quantity of provision been the same?—Yes.

Were the provisions diminished or increased in 1801?—They were increased.

Is beer included in your contract?—Yes, it is.

Have you a return made every morning, of what number of persons are in custody, so that you may know what number to provide for?—The porter, who is also the jailor, keeps an account of the number of prisoners, and that account is brought into the kitchen, by which means the cook knows what provisions to order; and this I can venture to say, that there has never been a complaint since I have been in office.

Can you describe the kind of meat which you provide them with?—Clods, stickings, and thick flanks without bone.

Do you give them the best wheaten or brown bread?—Absolutely the best, without exception; it is the same as we eat ourselves.

What clothes are given to the vagrants?—There are none, I apprehend, strictly speaking, which can be required to be given; we have no fund from which we are bound to supply such objects with clothing.

Do you give them any clothing at all?—None at all.

Suppose an individual should be brought to you nearly naked, and which, the Committee presume, frequently does occur, would you not order any clothing whatever for such an object?—No, I cannot do it; I have no authority for that purpose.

In point of fact, is there not a visiting committee who attend every Wednesday?—Yes.

Does that visiting committee go round the prison?—Yes, they do.

If they find persons in the state of nudity which has been described, do they not generally order them clothes?—They have done it generally at their discretion. The order is entered in the committee book, to procure such articles as the weekly visiting committee have conceived necessary. Of late years the exercise of that discretion has extended.

How long ago since this practice took place?—I do not know.

In the account which you have delivered in of the expenses of vagrants, is there any charge included for clothing?—There is.

What bedding have the vagrants?—In the prison there are twenty-four mens beds, which are in solitary cells, and twenty-six beds for the women; all those beds have Russia duck filled with straw; all the rest of the people lie upon straw.

Upon loose straw?—Yes; but they have also each two blankets and a coverlet.

Besides the beds you have spoken of, what other allowance is there for covering?—There are coverlets.

How many blankets for each?—Two, and occasionally three.

In this account which has been delivered in of the expenses of Bridewell hospital from

Mr. Bolton Hudson.

from Christmas to Christmas, are the expenses attending the orderly and disorderly people included?—Yes, absolutely so.

Will you tell the Committee in what way the sum charged for arts masters and apprentices is applied?—For clothing apprentices, and binding them to the arts masters, and making them free of the city, and of a public company, and for taxes and repairs of arts masters houses.

To whom do you distribute Fowke, Lock, and Palmer's gifts?—To the apprentices who behave well, when they are out of their time; those who behave well receive the three gifts at the discretion of the court and committee.

Are the apprentices allowed any weekly pocket-money?—None whatever by the hospital.

What are the tradesmens bills?—Printers, stationers, coal-merchant, turner, and general disbursements; this head also includes the annual dinners.

What is the nature of the repairs?—In some years the buildings and repairs have been very heavy: from 1813 to 1814, they were 2,100*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*; to 1815, 4,523*l.* 6*s.*; from 1815 to 1816, there is a sum of 1,146*l.* 13*s*; the last year they are considerably reduced, being 736*l.* 15*s.*

For what purpose were those expenses incurred?—In rebuilding the court, committee rooms and offices, enlarging the prison, and in the general repair of the hospital and prisons.

Will you inform the Committee, what is the number of officers who belong to the hospital, and what are their salaries?—I have not got an account with me; but I will furnish the Committee with it.

Do you giveany orders as to the internal state of the prison?—No, the committee do that; the prison committee, when they visit every Wednesday.

Have you any rules or regulations for the government of that prison?—None at all, except such as are included in the general rules and orders, and such as are general.

Have you taken any steps to introduce labour, so as to employ the disorderly, and others who may be confined?—I have, in conjunction with Sir Thomas Bernard, Mr. Granville Sharp, and other very good men, contrived every means in our power for that purpose; we were at the expense of a drug-mill, which cost us 100*l.*, but we could make nothing at all of it; then there were spinning-wheels introduced by Mr. Granville Sharp, but they did not succeed. Lately Mr. Williams recommended spinning flax, as an employment for the women.

Many years back, were there a greater number of persons committed to Bridewell than have taken place recently?—In 1816, 1,610 were committed; in 1817, there were 2,293; and in looking back to the books, I find that in Mr. Alderman Peckham's mayoralty, 2,924 were committed. In one day there appears to have been as many as 120.

In a list presented to the Committee, there is a calculation which is described under the following heads: vagrants and disorderly, city apprentices, and passes; by the word vagrant, in the first head, do you mean disorderly persons?—Yes.

Distinct from the meaning of the word passes?—Yes.

[*The following paper was delivered in and read, as follows.*]

Prisoners committed in 1810:		
Vagrants and disorderly - - - - -	198	
City Apprentices - - - - - - -	30	
Passes - - - - - - - -	387	
		615
In the year 1811:		
Vagrants and disorderly - - - - -	388	
Apprentices sent by the Chamberlain - - -	39	
Passes to their respective Parishes - - - -	253	
		680
In the year 1812:		
Vagrants, &c. - - - - - - - -	178	
Apprentices from Guildhall - - - - -	36	
Passes - - - - - - - -	783	
	997	

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In the year 1813:		
Vagrants, &c.	231	
City Apprentices	41	
Passes	860	
		1,132
In the year 1814:		
Vagrants, &c.	240	
City Apprentices	29	
Passes	558	
		827
In the year 1815:		
Vagrants	379	
City Apprentices	47	
Passes	520	
		946
Seven years, to 1816:		
Vagrants	266	
City Apprentices	28	
Passes	1,316	
		1,610
Eighth year, 1817:		
Vagrants, &c.	244	
City Apprentices	28	
Passes	2,021	
		2,293
Christmas, 1817:		
Apprentices, taken from Christ's Hospital, now in the House		30

[*The following Statement of the Particulars of the Tradesmens Bills for Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas* 1814 *to Christmas* 1817, *was read.*]

From Christmas 1814 to Christmas 1815:	£.	s.	d.
Printer	25	11	—
Stationer	64	12	—
Coal-merchant	105	10	8
Upholsterer	20	16	—
Petty Disbursements for Advertisements, Postages, &c.	90	3	3
Bookbinder	3	14	—
Dinners on Easter Monday and Saint Matthew's Day	145	17	—
Turner	84	—	—
Society for promoting Christian Knowledge	24	14	—
Lamplighter	48	8	—
Illumination on the Victory of Waterloo	98	7	—
Paper-hanger	27	6	—
Expenses of Committee of Survey	12	15	—
Total	£.715	13	11

From Christmas 1815 to Christmas 1816:	£.	s.	d.
Printer	84	6	—
Stationer	49	19	—
Turner	36	18	—
Lamplighter	54	5	—
Bookbinder	15	4	10
Dinners on Easter Monday and St. Matthew's Day	112	2	—
Coal-merchant	60	10	8
Upholsterer	7	19	—
Chimney-sweeper	10	6	—
Clock-maker	10	17	6
Petty Disbursements for Advertisements, Postages, &c.	92	11	2
Total	£.634	19	2

Mr. Bolton Hudson.

From Christmas 1816 to Christmas 1817:	£.	s.	d.
Printer	18	5	—
Stationer	52	13	—
Lamplighter	55	3	—
Coal-merchant	110	4	—
Bookbinder	18	5	—
Turner	30	2	—
Dinners on Easter Monday and St. Matthew's Day	106	3	—
Upholsterer	11	4	—
Petty Disbursements for Advertisements, Postages, &c.	89	17	2
Chimney-sweeper	4	19	—
Law Expenses	18	14	2
Total	£.515	9	4

Number of Officers who belong to Bridewell Hospital, with their respective Salaries; extracted by Order of the Committee of the House of Commons.

President	Gratuitous.
Treasurer	Ditto.
Chaplain	£.300 — —
Clerk	150 — —
Surveyor	75 — —
Surgeon	50 — —
Receiver and Steward	175 — —
Organist	21 — —
Porter and First Beadle	100 — —
Matron	70 — —
Second Beadle	65 — —
Third ditto	55 — —
Fourth ditto, and	49 14 —
Chapel Clerk	20 — —
Porter's Man	60 — —
The Apothecary at Bridewell has also the same office at Bethlem. The Salary is not distinct; for both it is	400 — —

Mr. *George Wallett*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. Wallett.

ARE you Apothecary to Bridewell Hospital?—Yes.

And also to Bethlem?—Yes.

How long have you been in that situation?—Two years next June.

Are you paid a distinct salary for your attention to Bridewell Hospital?—I really do not know; my salary is 400 *l.* a year for attending both hospitals, but I do not know the proportion for each.

What are the regular duties of your office, as apothecary, as it respects Bridewell?—I am required to give due attendance upon the sick.

Do you visit Bridewell daily?—Generally I do.

At any regular hours?—I generally go in the afternoon, about half past three o'clock.

Do the duties interfere with each other?—No, but very little; I generally finish my business with physicians at Bethlem, about three o'clock; and then I go to Bridewell.

Do you go from thence to Bridewell every day?—Yes, generally; my duty is to see the patients at Bridewell; and on my return to Bethlem I send the proper medicines to Bridewell.

Do you send all the medicines you may find necessary to prescribe from Bethlem?—Not always; in case of emergency, I send to the druggist opposite Bridewell Hospital.

Are the medicines found at Bethlem by the Governors?—Yes.

And the medicines provided by any druggist are paid for by the governors of Bridewell Hospital?—Yes.

Mr. Wallett. Can you state to the Committee, the situation of the vagrants, and other prisoners there, as to health in general?—In general, they come into the hospital in a very sad state, and much emaciated for want of food and nourishment, and having been badly lodged and clothed previous to their arrival; I would beg to state to the Committee, that the disorderly come into the hospital generally in a better state than the vagrants.

Have you had any considerable fever, or other contagious disorder, since you have been there?—No, not considerable; I think I have not had, during the last twelve months, more than ten cases of typhus fever.

Have you any regular infirmary in Bridewell?—On the womens side only, but none on the mens side.

Is that always appropriated to persons upon your sick list?—No, not all; they are only cases of contagion, and cases which require to be kept free from noise and disturbance, that are sent there.

Are you allowed to order any thing that may be necessary for them in their state of disease?—I am allowed by the committee to order any thing that I think proper.

Are you allowed to furnish any clothing to any prisoner who is in a very destitute state?—No, I am not.

Do you recollect the case of a woman of the name of Casey?—I do.

When did you first see her?—I think it was the 12th March.

In what state did you find her when you first visited her?—I found her feeble and weak; she was complaining of a complaint which she called a flux.

What was your opinion of her case?—I found the real state of the case to be, that she was labouring under an ordinary diarrhœa.

Do you know whether any medicines had been given to her, or whether she had been attended before you came?—I recollect not having been at the hospital on the day previous to the 10th, but found that the matron had requested Mr. Lawrence, the surgeon, to see her.

Had she had medicines given to her?—She had, by Mr. Lawrence.

Was she in the infirmary when you first saw her?—Yes, she was in the infirmary when I first saw her.

Did she describe herself to be better than what she had been before?—She complained a good deal then, but she told me she was a little better than she had been a day or two previous.

Do you know whether she was destitute of clothing?—I discovered it afterwards; but she had a pretty good gown on when I saw her.

Then you did not see her in bed?—I think she did not go to bed till the Saturday following.

When you saw her, was she sitting up?—Yes, when I saw her she was sitting up.

You did not know she was destitute of a shift?—I did not.

In such a case as that, would you not have thought, had you have known of it, that it would have been your duty to recommend to the governors to have supplied her?—Unquestionably I should.

Do you suppose that the matron, under your direction, could have supplied her with one?—I do not think the matron has the power; indeed I am certain she has not the power, under my direction.

Do you think that this woman, having a diarrhœa, and being in bed without sheets, that she could have been in a proper state?—None of our prisoners are allowed sheets; they always sleep in blankets.

Were you aware that her motions left her involuntarily?—I was not aware of it; she told me that was not the case, because I particularly directed the motions to be saved, that I might inspect them, to see whether there was any discharge of blood, or whether it was only a common diarrhœa.

Do you not think it was the matron's business to see whether she had a shift on or not?—I certainly think the matron should have inquired respecting that; indeed no other person can do it with propriety.

Are sheets allowed in the hospital?—No, they are not.

Is there any nurse appointed to the infirmary?—We generally get one of the prisoners to act as nurse; we have no nurse upon the establishment; indeed there is no nurse allowed.

Have you a venereal ward?—No.

Do venereal cases very often occur?—I believe they do, but they fall under the observation of the surgeon.

Are

Mr. Wallett.

Are they not very offensive to the other prisoners sometimes?—Unquestionably; and they are very bad.

In your opinion ought they not to be placed in a room by themselves?—Certainly.

Is it the practice of the hospitals in the metropolis to place venereal patients in separate wards?—I believe at St. Bartholemew they mix promiscuously.

Do you find the infirmary very offensive in point of smell?—I did on the Saturday to which I have alluded, the nurse having omitted to take out the pan which I desired her to save for me to inspect.

Do you recollect seeing a girl, who had the venereal complaint, of the name of Sarah Richardson?—I do not recollect the name, but I recollect seeing of a venereal patient.

You do not know any thing of that patient by name?—No, I do not.

Do you know the diet that is supplied to each prisoner?—I do.

Is the quantity sufficient for them?—On the intermediate days that they have soup only; that I really think is not sufficient.

The Committee have been informed that they have a great quantity of table-beer, as much as three pints daily; do you think that is at all necessary?—The beer is very good; I do not know that it injures them.

Would it not be better to give them more provision and a less quantity of beer?—I think so.

Do you keep a book to enter the names of the patients, and the nature of their disorders?—No, I do not; I received my instructions from the late apothecary, and I have followed his footsteps.

Had you no charge given you by the governors?—No other than the rules, which were read to me; the porter keeps a book very similar to the one the Committee have spoken of, in which he enters the number which comes in, and whether they have any particular disorder.

Has it not frequently occurred that patients have been so ill in Bridewell that they have been taken out by order of the chief magistrate of London, and placed in other hospitals?—In no case that I recollect, unless I have applied to the magistrate for their removal; as for instance, when I have had a case of fever, or contagious disorder, I have applied to the lord mayor for permission to send them to a fever hospital.

You cannot speak to the surgical cases, can you?—No, only to the medical cases. I would beg to correct a previous answer which I made when I was asked whether we had a nurse allowed: I would beg to state to the Committee, that there is a nurse on the mens side; I would beg also to observe, that they keep a book in which they enter the sick diet of the prisoners, but not the medicines prescribed for them.

Richard Weaver, called in; and Examined.

R. Weaver.

WHAT are you denominated at Bridewell?—Jailor or Porter; but more generally by the appellation of porter.

How long have you filled that situation?—I have been going on about twelve years in that situation.

Do you receive a salary?—Yes, I do.

What is the amount of it?—100 *l.* a year.

Have you a house to live in?—I have; it is situated at the entrance of the hospital.

Are you found in coals, candles, &c.?—I am not; I find my own.

Have you any privileges whatever besides the 100 *l.* a year?—Yes, I have; I am allowed my clothes, the same as the other servants.

How many suits in the year?—Only one suit.

Is it a particular suit of clothes applicable to your situation?—We generally have blue coats.

What other privileges have you?—There is only a little trifle now and then for a copy of commitment.

Who pays you for that?—The person who applies for it.

What do they pay?—Eighteen pence.

Is it a printed form?—Yes.

Copied exactly from the commitment of the magistrate?—Yes.

For which they pay you eighteen-pence?—Yes.

R. Weaver.

What is the amount that you receive for these copies in the course of the year? It is very trifling; it amounted to more in the mayoralty of Alderman Wood than it usually does; it never came to more than thirty shillings.

What other fees do you take?—I have nothing but five guineas, in lieu of Christmas boxes, which we used to go round to collect of the different governors; but that has been abolished for a series of years, and the governors gave that in lieu, and that is all.

Have you stated the whole of your salary?—I have.

Have you no fees upon the discharge of any prisoners at all?—Not a halfpenny; we never demand any.

What is your particular duty in the prison?—My duty is more on the outside, to receive the commitments, and enter them into a book kept for that purpose, and in which I enter all the discharges; the whole burden of that lies upon me; but the person under me is chiefly in the prison, and receives those committed from me.

Do you attend to the internal management of the prison?—I go to see that every thing is right; sometimes I go twice, or oftener, each day.

Is the manner of visiting the prison left to your discretion; the Committee mean, the persons who visit the prisoners confined?—It is not; there are two days allotted in the week for that purpose.

What are those days?—Tuesdays and Fridays, from twelve till one.

Are those days fixed for visiting by a committee?—Yes, by a committee.

How long has that regulation taken place?—I believe, not quite a twelvemonth; the visitors do not go into the prison, but only look through a grating.

Are no persons whatever allowed to go into the prison?—No, unless the prisoners are ill, and then their friends are admitted to see them.

During the time of those hours of visiting, are any persons present, either yourself or deputy?—I am in a little room facing the prison.

Then there is no person there at the time?—Not always; but generally myself or the porter's man.

Have they the means of conveying spirituous liquors, or any article of that kind into the hands of the prisoners?—No, they have not.

How is it prevented?—There have been attempts made, and I have stopped them by searching.

Do you generally search?—There is no opportunity of getting any thing in now.

Why have they not the opportunity?—Because the grating is so small they cannot get any thing through.

Are you aware that it was the practice before to convey spirits into the prison?—There have been attempts; I have detected it in their hats; and I have taken them before a magistrate, and they have been committed; we are very particular in allowing any thing of that kind.

Are there any instances to your knowledge, within the last twelvemonth, of any of the prisoners being in a state of intoxication?—Within my knowledge, none whatever; I have been upon the establishment 43 years, and have gone through all the different offices, and do not recollect any instance.

Are the orders laid down for the visiting of the prisoners only two days in a week strictly adhered to?—They are.

Can you furnish the Committee with an account of the number of prisoners committed from any given time?—No, I cannot.

Do you superintend the delivering out of the provisions?—I do not; the person under me has the charge of that.

You keep a return book of the number of persons committed, distinguishing them under the heads of vagrants and disorderly, city apprentices, and passes; what is the distinction between those denominated vagrants and disorderly, and those called passes?—Those who are taken up as common prostitutes in the streets, those are what are denominated properly as disorderly.

Then do you enter the prisoners as such in your commitment book?—The disorderly and common prostitutes we enter as such in our books; then the others who come to be passed to their respective parishes, we call them vagrants, let them come in in what manner they will.

Are they confined for any given time whatever?—The length of their confinement is discretionary; it rests entirely with the will of the magistrate.

It generally occurs that they are sent for seven days, does it not?—Generally the lower orders; the paupers, I mean.

Unless the paupers be very ill, then the magistrates send them for a longer time, do they not?—That does happen frequently.

The disorderly are generally sent for a month, are they not?—Yes, from fourteen days to a month; sometimes twenty-one days; it is according to the discretion of the magistrate.

Do you attend to the labour of the disorderly persons?—No, I do not; the person under me does that.

Does he keep a book in which they are credited for the labour they perform?—We have not had any labour for a long time; we cannot get any.

When a magistrate orders a prisoner to be punished, who is the person that inflicts that punishment?—The junior beadle.

Does any person attend him during that period?—I do, in all cases of punishment; I seldom or ever am out of the way, excepting on business.

What is the nature of the punishment inflicted?—The cat-o'-nine-tails.

How much punishment have they?—It is left to my discretion, and I always lean to mercy.

What is the greatest punishment you have ever inflicted?—Not above a couple of dozen, or two dozen and a half; it is discretionary; I regulate it according to their behaviour.

Where is it inflicted?—On their backs.

Do you keep any book in which you enter the names of the prisoners who are to be punished by the order of the magistrates?—I keep a book the same as for the other prisoners, and I put them down who are to be corrected.

Do you enter the number of lashes you order each prisoner to receive?—I do not; some are more tender than others; I therefore exercise my discretion.

You have said that persons have been returned to your custody after you have punished them?—Yes, often.

Do you ever punish the women?—They are not now, as there is an Act of Parliament to prohibit it.

Prior to that Act of Parliament you used to do it?—Yes.

How many did you punish last year, out of the two thousand that were committed?—Very few.

How many should you suppose?—I should suppose about fifteen or sixteen within this half year.

Are the whole of your male prisoners present when you inflict the punishment?—We always let them see the infliction of the punishment; it is done in the stocks, and the apprentices likewise come down to see it.

Is the offence stated at the time when the punishment is inflicted?—We inform them of it.

Do you punish every one who brings down a commitment ordering punishment to be inflicted?—We do, unless they are ill and not capable of undergoing it.

When disorderly or vagrant persons are committed to the prisons, what is immediately done with them?—If they are filthy and dirty they are washed.

Is there a tub provided for washing every prisoner, male and female?—There is a bath on each side.

Then the Committee are to understand, that on the arrival of all prisoners they are washed each in their respective bath?—No, I do not pretend to say so.

Are you aware that it is according to the instructions in the hospital, that a bath should be provided, and that each prisoner should be washed on his first entrance?—Yes, it is so.

The Committee understand that a copy of instructions are given to the matron, which require of her that all the women prisoners, in health, are to be washed on their admission; is that regularly practised or not?—To that the matron is better able to give an answer.

Are similar instructions given respecting the men?—They are washed if they stand in need of it.

Do you mean to say that all the prisoners kept in Bridewell are in that state of cleanliness as not to require washing?—We take care to keep them as cleanly as we can, according to the state in which they come in; they generally come in in a most deplorable state, very ragged and very dirty.

You say that the people often come into the prison in a most deplorable state, in very ragged garments, and in a very dirty condition; will you inform the Committee whether you always take care that they are cleansed; do you mean to say that all these

R. Weaver. these persons are cleansed and washed?—They are bathed and washed if they require it.

When the Committee visited the prison, the females appeared to them to be in a very dirty state; have you any knowledge whether those had undergone any washing or cleansing?—I have no knowledge of that, because that rests with the matron.

Are you aware whether there are any instructions to those officers who have the charge of the men?—The rules run in the same manner.

Do you know whether those instructions are obeyed?—They are abided by if they come in in a very filthy state; they are kept as strict as they can.

Have you any baths in the prison?—Yes.

Is there any running water?—No; but it comes in regularly, I believe, into our cisterns.

The Committee want to know how often the water is changed; whether it comes in every twenty-four hours, and is re-placed by fresh water?—No, it is not.

How often is the water in the bath changed? No otherwise than it comes from the river Thames, when it is turned on afresh.

How often is it turned on?—I suppose daily.

Do you mean to say that the whole of it is changed once in twenty-four hours?—No, not the whole of it; the quantity that is taken out is filled up; but I beg to state that the water in the baths, which are filled out of the cistern, is always let out after it has been used; the cisterns are merely reservoirs.

You have stated it to be your duty to stay in the office to receive prisoners, and enter their names in a book; and another part of your duty to attend to the interior of the prison: are these regulations of your own, or have they been done by the order of the governors?—By order of the governors; it is laid down in the rules and orders to which I am directed to attend.

Are any means used for cleaning the clothes of any persons who are in a filthy condition?—We give them, in general, others, such as second-hand shirts; but sometimes we give them new.

Is any soap allowed in the prison?—Soap is always given out for the men and women to wash with.

Are they washed daily?—Yes.

John Harper, called in; and Examined.

J. Harper. ARE you the deputy-keeper of the prison?—Yes.

What do they call you?—Porter's man.

How long have you been in that situation?—I have been almost eight years.

What salary do you receive?—60 *l.* a year.

What other allowances have you?—I have a house to live in.

Any coals?—Yes, I have a chaldron and a half of coals; but there are no candles allowed: I am allowed, in addition, a 10 *l.* gratuity.

Do you receive any fees of any kind?—No.

Any fees for copies of commitment?—No.

Is that paid to the porter?—Yes.

Have you your orders from a committee of the governors, or from the porter?—From the porter.

What is your particular duty?—My duty is to lock the prisoners up, and to let them out; and also to examine them when they come in.

Do you examine the prisoners when they come in, as to their state of cleanliness?—Yes.

What do you do when they appear very filthy?—It sometimes happens that they have the itch; I then strip them, and give them stuff to rub in for the purpose of curing the disorder.

Is that stuff given by the surgeon?—Yes, by the surgeon.

Then what do you do with the clothes which you take off?—I take them and wash them; their shirts and stockings I wash in hot water, and when they are cured of the itch I give them back again.

During this interval, what clothing do they put on?—They have nothing at all on.

What do you do with the other clothes?—If the committee order other clothes, they have them.

But what do you do with the dirty clothes which the patient had at the time of admission?—

J. Harper.

admission?—Sometimes their clothes are very good, and if they are good we do not make away with them; the patient has them again when he goes out.

What clothes do you put on after you have taken these clothes off, in consequence of their disease; what do you put upon them?—During that time the patient lies upon straw; he has three blankets and a rug till he is cured, which is generally between five or six days.

But if his clothes are bad, what others do you give him?—The gentlemen order him a jacket and trowsers.

Do you mean to say, that all the prisoners who want clothes are furnished by the committee with a jacket and trowsers?—Not all, but the greater proportion.

How many prisoners have you clothed during the last year?—I cannot give the Committee that information.

Is it entered in any book?—It is entered in the prison committee book.

There is no clothing in your possession, from which you could give a prisoner if he comes in perfectly naked?—No.

Can the Committee receive, by making an order for it, an account of all the clothes distributed to the prisoners in the prison during the last year?—I think so; the order books will explain it.

Do you superintend the delivery of the food to the prisoners?—Yes, I deliver it all out to them.

Do you weigh out the meat to them?—No, but I see it weighed out; it is weighed after it is dressed, and each receives ten ounces of meat, without bone or gristle, at 12 o'clock, and they receive bread at the same time; they have this four days in the week, Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Are you the person, in case any prisoner is ordered to receive whipping, who inflicts the punishment?—Not always; sometimes Charles Hall, the beadle, does it.

When you or Hall inflict a punishment, who is there to look over you, to see that the punishment is not too little or too much?—Weaver, the porter, attends.

What is the greatest number of strokes that you give?—Sometimes a dozen and a half, and sometimes two dozen and a half; it seldom exceeds the latter.

Are all the persons that are ordered to be whipped so whipped under that order?—Always, except they are so ill as not to be able to bear it.

Have you any other punishments within your own jurisdiction for bad behaviour in the prison?—If they are refractory we put their hands into the stocks for ten minutes or a quarter of an hour; there is very little punishment.

Have any persons in your custody been confined for seven days to six months—Yes.

Have you had any that exceeded six months?—No; I never remember but one, and that was a woman; she was sent down for a twelvemonth, and that was for refusing to swear to a bastard child.

And during the whole of that period she was kept associated with disorderly women?—She was a wards-woman.

And whether the prisoners are there for six days or six months, or even in that case you have mentioned, they have none of them a yard to go into in the course of the day?—None at all.

Do you occasionally give them any exercise in any place whatever?—No; excepting sometimes in the churchyard, when we have any thing for them to do.

Do you ever take the prisoners there for mere exercise?—Not for that purpose.

Are they ever allowed to walk in the yard?—No; for I once lost a six months prisoner.

How long is that ago?—About six years; and the committee ordered me not to let them go again into the yard.

Have you now a prisoner in custody who was sentenced for six months?—No, he is discharged, having served out his time.

Have you any other for that time?—None.

Do the magistrates send persons there for a month, or for a short period, for petty offences?—Yes.

During that period are they kept in solitary confinement?—Not the whole of them.

At what time do you open the doors in the morning?—Between six and seven.

Do they remain open all day?—No; I lock them up about ten o'clock in the morning.

When do you open them again?—At twelve.

When again?—I lock them up at two, or a quarter before.

J. Harper.

When are they let out again?—At four or a little after, and finally locked up at seven o'clock.

Have they any clothes allowed them?—None, unless they are sick.

How many are put into each cell?—Only one.

Never more than one?—Never more than one, except he is sick, and then there is a man appointed to sit up with him, to give him his medicine.

Are those persons, so locked up, such as are employed in labour?—Yes.

Is there any labour now in the hospital?—No, none at all on the male side; but the women have some.

How long is it since they had labour?—Last Michaelmas, I think.

If a man is ill where is he placed?—He is in his cell.

If you have more than one person ill, has each an attendant?—One man attends the whole.

How often is the straw changed in the bedding?—Sometimes every week in the summer time, and every day, if it is wanted; but generally about every nine days.

Supposing a person is sick, who dirties his bed, has he immediately fresh bedding?—It is taken out and washed directly, and a fresh bed given, and fresh blankets, if required.

Do the visiting committee on a Wednesday go round the whole of the prison?—Yes.

Do they see every prisoner?—Yes.

Does the clergyman regularly attend?—Yes, three times a week, and sees every prisoner who is capable of going.

What do you mean by, who is capable of going?—Those who are sick cannot go to chapel.

Does he attend them in the cells to talk to them privately?—No.

Does he distribute books to them?—Yes, bibles and religious tracts.

Is there a bible in every cell?—Yes.

Do you think, from your observation, that the punishment in Bridewell has produced any reform in those who have been confined there?—Yes, I think it does in some instances, particularly in city apprentices.

But are not the city apprentices confined by themselves in solitary confinement?—Yes.

Have you often the same person there more than once?—Yes, very often; out one day and in the next.

Have you ever known persons to have been there ten or twenty different times?—Yes, above thirty.

Of course the punishment produced no reform in them?—No.

Do you attend visitors who come to see the prisoners?—Yes.

Are they allowed to go into the prison at all?—No, not at all, neither the men nor the women.

Can they convey to them any spirits, or other articles of that kind?—No, I always search them; I am very particular about that.

Are the number of the visitors very great?—When we have had a great number of prisoners, I have had as many as a hundred in a day.

What is the greatest number of prisoners you have ever had there altogether?—Above a hundred of all kinds.

How many is the prison calculated to hold?—I cannot say.

When persons are removed, after seven days punishment, to whom are they delivered when taken out from your custody?—There is a man who comes and takes them from me, a man of the name of Allen, who is a city constable.

Then you do not deliver them to the pass-master?—No; but it is Allen's duty to take them up to the magistrate, and he sends them to the pass-master.

Are the regulations of the Act of Parliament, respecting spirituous liquors, hung up so as the prisoners can see them?—Yes, they are.

[*The following Paper was delivered in, and read.*]

"College of Physicians, 8th of April, 1818.

"Mr. Lawrence presents his respectful compliments to Mr. Alderman Wood, and acknowledges the receipt of a paper signed by him, and dated from the House of Commons, containing an Order from the Committee on London Prisons, 'that there be laid before this Committee the number of sick in the Infirmary, for the last three years, distinguishing each year; also an account of the number of persons who have been attended during that period, within the

the hospital, by the surgeon or apothecary.' If the above order refer, as Mr. Lawrence presumes that it does, to the prison of Bridewell, he regrets that it is not in his power to furnish the desired information, because it has not been the custom to keep any register of the cases from which such lists could be formed.

"Matthew Wood, Esq. Alderman, M. P. &c. &c. &c."

"Sir, "Footscray-place, Kent, March 7, 1818.

"As you did me the honour to intimate the desire of the Committee that I would state any facts that had come to my knowledge on the subject of the diet of persons confined in prisons, as well as any observations which the experience of five years (during which I have performed the duties of a visiting justice in a large and very crowded gaol) might suggest, I beg to submit the following statement and diet-table:

"The rules of the House of Correction at Maidstone (used in part as a penitentiary) do not allow the admission of any article of food, money, &c. sent by the friends of prisoners, and the visiting justices have had repeated opportunities of ascertaining that the rules are faithfully carried into effect; so that the results may be depended on as arising entirely from the systems of diet ordered by the justices for the prisoners at various times, and not, as is frequently the case in gaols, from that allowance, together with other articles supplied to the prisoners by the kindness of their friends.

"For several years the daily allowance to prisoners in the county prisons at Maidstone had been a loaf of best wheaten bread, weighing one pound and a half; but on the introduction of a system of labour in the House of Correction, a small allowance of oatmeal, for gruel, was added in a morning, and a pint of warm soup, made of oatmeal, rice, pease, and potatoes, at dinner.

"At various times, when the prison was particularly crowded, illness, with symptoms indicative of weakness, was observed to prevail among the prisoners, and the principal medicine, on reference to our surgeon's journal, appeared to be solid meat; at the same time that he assured us our general dieting did not need alteration.

"In the early part of last year a typhus fever broke out, which was happily stopped by one of our body, at the hazard of his life, carefully ascertaining on the spot, and carrying into effect various methods of ventilation, and at the same time directing a liberal daily allowance of meat and porter to every prisoner. (The name of this excellent man deserves to be noted; the late Rev. Mr. Cobb, of Ightham in this county.) After the disorder had completely disappeared, we returned to our usual dieting, with the approbation of our surgeon; but towards the latter end of the year, swelled legs and other marks of debility appeared again among the prisoners; and as circumstances had occurred that led us to doubt the sufficiency of our surgeon (who has been subsequently dismissed), we determined to call in the assistance of the late Dr. Day, of Maidstone, a physician of eminence, who had also some years before published a tract on typhus fever, and the ventilation of gaols. His opinion was, that the state of health of the prisoners arose from bad air, which, from the crowded state of the wards, they breathed at night, and from a diet deficient in solid food, for which he did not consider our vegetable soup a sufficient substitute. He recommended therefore, that we should ventilate every ward by tubes, (described at page 4 of the Appendix to his treatise on gaol fever,) to admit fresh air without creating a draft, a matter of great consequence in wards for sleeping, together with a bell-shaped opening in the cieling, and tubes to conduct the foul air into the yards. And with regard to diet, after the discussion of a great variety of suggestions from Dr. Day, and from the six visiting justices, the annexed table was with his approbation adopted, together with his plan for ventilation, which is by no means expensive. The result, I am happy to say, is, that our prisoners have been ever since in a good state of health, with the exception of the casualties incident to mankind generally; experience has also proved that we actually feed the prisoners at a smaller expense than formerly. I have stated these matters at some length, in the hope of proving, first, that our results may be relied on, and secondly, that the extremes of misplaced indulgence on the one

one hand, and neglect of the common duties of humanity on the other, have been carefully avoided.

"I beg you will command my future services, if they can be useful;

"And have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your most obedient humble servant,
"*B. Harene.*"

"To the Hon. Henry Bennet, one of the
Committee on the State of the Prisons
in the City of London."

"Dr. Franklin's compliments to Colonel Dalrymple; has sent him, according to his request, two scales of diet, one of which he thinks might be fit for the prisoners confined in Newgate. The first is probably more nutritious than can be requisite for persons of the description under confinement. He thinks the second perfectly adequate for the purpose. The meat is intended to be issued four days in the week, and should be used to make a pint of broth each day, with proper vegetables, and the oatmeal is intended for gruel for breakfast.

"24, Charlotte-street, Portland-place,
30th March, 1818."

"House of Correction for the Western Division of the County of Kent at Maidstone.

Diet Table, for Prisoners engaged in Labour.

Sunday: - - - - 1 lb. bread, ½ lb. beef, 1 lb. potatoes.
Monday: - - - - 1 lb. bread, 1 pint ox-head soup, and 1 lb. potatoes.
Tuesday: - - - - 1 lb. bread, ½ lb. oatmeal, 2 lbs. potatoes.
Wednesday: - - 1 lb. bread, ½ lb. beef, 1 pound potatoes.
Thursday: - - - 1 lb. bread, ½ lb. oatmeal, 2 lbs. potatoes.
Friday: - - - - 1 lb. bread, 1 pint of soup according to receipt annexed.
Saturday: - - - 1 lb. bread, 1 lb. of suet pudding.

For Prisoners not engaged in Labour.

Sunday:—1 lb. bread, ½ lb. beef, 1 pound of potatoes.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday:—1½ lbs. of bread per day.
Wednesday:—1 pint of soup according to receipt.

Receipt for soup for eighty persons:—2 bullock's heads, 1½ bushels of potatoes, 6 lbs. of whole rice, 1½ gallon of pea-flour, onions, leeks, pepper, and salt.

Suet-pudding for eighty Persons:—8 gallons of flour, 8 lbs. of suet.

The expense of the above diet-table was, upon an average of the whole:
From January 16, 1817, to April 15:—73*d.*—37 per head, per day.
From April 15 to July 17:—70 *d.*—65 per head, per day.
The bread is best wheaten.

"*B. Harene.*"

"Scale of Diet proposed by Dr. Franklin, Inspector of Army Hospitals, and one of the Army Medical Board, for the Prisoners confined in Newgate or other Jails.

For seven days, (No. 1.)

		s.	*d.*
3½ lbs. Meat, at 6 *d.* per lb.	- - - -	1	9
5¾ lbs. Bread, at 3 *d.* —	- - - -	1	3¾
7 lbs. Potatoes, at 0½ *d.* —	- - - -	—	3½
14 oz. Oatmeal	- - - - - - -	—	3½
Salt, Vegetables, &c.	- - - - - -	—	1½
		3	9¼

For

For seven days, (No. 2.)

	s.	*d.*
2 lbs. Meat, at 6 *d.* per lb.	1	—
5 ¼ lbs. Bread, at 3 *d.*	1	3 ¾
10 lbs. Potatoes, at 0 ½	—	5
1 ¼ lbs. Oatmeal, at 4 *d.*	—	5
Salt, Vegetables, &c.	—	1 ½
	3	3 ¼

" If the latter (No. 2,) be adopted, which seems to be sufficiently nutritious for persons who are confined, meat, which is to be made into broth, should be issued only four times a week; and on the other three days, an additional pound of potatoes, and two additional ounces of oatmeal, are to be issued to each man. The calculation of the prices of articles are taken high; it is presumed they could be furnished by contract in London, of sufficient good quality, at a cheaper rate.

" To the Committee appointed by the Honourable the House of Commons to inquire into the State of the Prisons within the city of London.

" The Grand Jury of the city of London, impanelled at the last October sessions held at the Old Bailey, in the discharge of their duty, visited the gaol of Newgate; and, having made inquiries as to the general arrangements adopted therein, feel so deeply impressed with the facts that have come to their knowledge, that they consider it their duty to make to you the following representation:

" In visiting the wards set apart for the male prisoners under sentence of death, the Grand Jury were strongly impressed with the impropriety of confining together persons thus circumstanced. If ever there was a period when solitude, and leisure for reflection and repentance, are indispensable to the present and future welfare of a human being, assuredly it is when the duration of his existence in this world may be so near its final termination. To those who are already penetrated with a sense of their own guilt, and are sincerely desirous of making their peace with that Almighty Being against whom they have offended, it presents the most serious impediments, by depriving them of that secret communion with their own souls which can exist only in a state of solitude. The hardened criminal is confirmed in his impenitence by that support which association, to a certain degree, always affords, and by his example and conversation he throws the strongest obstacles in the way of those who are better inclined. The Grand Jury therefore think it their bounden duty to declare their opinion, that this system of confining condemned criminals ought no longer to be suffered to exist in a Christian country.

" It is with concern also that they observed, that persons are indiscriminately confined, whatever be the nature of their offences, whether accused of atrocious crimes, or committed upon charges comparatively light; whether old offenders, experienced in iniquity, or mere boys, who have never before been called upon to answer for a violation of the laws of their country. How detrimental this system is to the morals of all is most obvious. Many of those committed have deviated for the first time from the paths of honesty; by associating with the hardened and experienced villain, the very roots of virtuous principles are extirpated. The novice in dishonesty becomes an adept in all the arts of wickedness and depravity; and those who are again returned into society, come forth more inclined for the commission of crime, and infinitely better accomplished for its successful perpetration.

" It was with deep regret, that amongst the persons indiscriminately confined, the Grand Jury found a large proportion of young persons, twenty-eight being under sixteen, twenty-three under eighteen, and thirty-four under twenty years of age. In the apartment which is appropriated to the purposes of a school, the boys are confined without any classification whatever, the untried and the convicted not even being separated in this room. Twenty-six lads, making part of the number of offenders in the prison under sixteen years of age, the remainder being placed with the men in the several yards. The Grand Jury regret to learn, that so far from there being an intention to adopt

adopt a system of separating and classing the juvenile prisoners, the boys in the school have but recently been removed from more spacious apartments to the small room now occupied for their instruction. The greater number of boys committed to this prison must now therefore be confined among hardened and atrocious characters.

" The Grand Jury cannot too deeply lament, that at the present period, when the increased number of juvenile depredators in the metropolis has arrested the attention, and justly excited the alarm of the public, no efficient measures should be adopted in this prison to diminish the evil by reforming the offender. To the youthful class of offenders all the observations, as to the mischief arising from promiscuous association, apply with tenfold force. The danger of contamination is infinitely greater; the hope of reformation, under a proper system, infinitely stronger. Their tender age prevents the possibility of their minds being inured to crime, in the same degree, at least, as the veteran offender. The neglect or loss of parents, the entire absence of all instruction, the pressure of severe want, seduction by others more experienced in vice, are the principal causes that have brought them to their present lamentable situation, and render them objects peculiarly deserving the commiseration and attention of Government as well as of society at large.

" It is most desirable that some means should be adopted for the division, classification, and employment of all the male offenders; and the Grand Jury beg leave to represent the urgent necessity of immediate measures being adopted for the separation of the young offenders by the appropriation of a building for their reception. The state of Newgate, and the alarming increase of juvenile criminals, earnestly call for the speediest adoption of remedial measures.

" It was with the highest satisfaction that the Grand Jury, on their visit to the apartments provided for the female prisoners, observed the great reformation which has been effected therein, and the beneficial consequences which have resulted from the introduction of order, cleanliness, and regular employment, by an association of ladies who visit the prison.

" The Grand Jury trust that the Committee will agree with them in thinking that the evils which they have represented deserve the serious consideration of His Majesty's government.

" London, 22d January 1818.

Richard Noble, Foreman,
Thomas Dornford,
William Austin,
Edward Hanson,
Samuel Wilson,
Thomas Rainsay,
W. Mardall,
Isaac Thompson,
John Cole,
William A. Weguelin,
John Jackson King,
Edward Frisby,
Joseph Balfour,
George Kendall,
Theop. Hearvey,
William Lunn,
George Thomas King,
Robert Beachcroft,
Jacob Osborne,
William Smart,
Henry Toppin,
Edward Langmore,
Arthur Spear."

[*The following Statement was delivered in, and read.*]

A Return of all the Clothes distributed in Bridewell Hospital, distinguishing whether for the Males or Females, and the species of Clothing for the last two years, ending the 1st January 1818.

Prisoners Names.	Articles provided.
Mary Grady - - -	A pair of shoes, a petticoat, a shift, and a common gown.
John Welsh - - -	One pair of strong common worsted stockings, and one check shirt.
Eliza Cook - - -	A pair of shoes.
Mrs. Fox and her two children	A pair of shoes for each.
Mary Smith - - -	A pair of shoes.
A. Macdonald - - -	A pair of shoes and a pair of stockings.
Mary Branning - - -	A pair of shoes.

Prisoners Names.	Articles provided.
Two children of Mary Branning	A pair of shoes for each.
Susannah Blake	A pair of shoes.
Elizabeth Daily	A pair of shoes.
John Dent	A pair of shoes.
Mary Cobb	A shift, a petticoat, a pair of stockings, and a pair of shoes.
A child of Mary Cobb	A pair of shoes.
Joseph Warren	A pair of shoes.
William Hales	A pair of shoes.
James Greenway	A pair of shoes.
Mary Evans	An entire suit of garments, shoes and stockings.
Ann Hilder	A pair of shoes.
Eliza Parry	A pair of shoes.
John Maloney	A pair of shoes, a pair of stockings, and a pair of trowsers.
John Turpin	A suit of clothes.
Joseph Yates	A suit of clothes.
Ann M'Corthy	A pair of shoes.
Eleanor Peggitt	A shift.
Margaret Matthews	A shift.
Sarah Lawrence	A shift.
William Fletcher	A pair of shoes, a pair of stockings, a jacket, and trowsers.
Thomas Grady	A pair of shoes, a pair of stockings, a shirt, and a jacket.
Antonio Branks	A pair of shoes and a pair of stockings.
John Canagan	A shirt, a pair of shoes, and a pair of trowsers.
John Clark	A shirt, a pair of shoes, and a pair of trowsers.
William Reynolds	A pair of shoes.
Ann M'Corthy	A gown, a shift, a bonnet, a shawl, a pair of shoes, and a pair of stockings.
John Anderson	A pair of shoes.
Jane Vorton	A pair of shoes.
William Ruston	A pair of breeches or trowsers.
Mary Mier	A petticoat, a shift, a gown, a pair of stockings and a pair of shoes.
Ann Ryan	A pair of shoes, a pair of stockings, and a petticoat.
A child of Ann Ryan	A small petticoat.
A child of Catherine Moloney	A pair of shoes and a pair of stockings.
Mary Smith	A petticoat and a pair of shoes.
Penelope Watson	A pair of shoes and a pair of stockings.
A child of Eleanor Lachlin	A pair of shoes.
Jane Davis	A pair of shoes.
Hannah Smith, alias Hannah Long	A pair of shoes and a pair of worsted stockings.
William Can	A pair of shoes.
Hannah Nicholson	A pair of shoes.

John Poynder,
Clerk.

Bethlem Hospital,
10th April 1818.

Mercurii, 15° *die Aprilis*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Captain *James Bowen*, R. N. called in; and Examined.

Capt. J. Bowen.

YOU are one of the commissioners of the transport board?—I was one of them.

The superintendence and management of Dartmoor Prison was under your board?—Yes, under the orders of the Admiralty.

Will you state to the Committee in what state the prison is now, whether it is empty or otherwise?—I have not visited the prison since the prisoners went away; but there are no prisoners there now, nobody but a man belonging to the Barrack Office, to look after it.

What were the greatest number of persons confined at any one time?—I should suppose between eight and nine thousand; there were accommodations for nine thousand, but I cannot tell whether there were ever so many.

Be good enough to state how this prison appears accommodated, as regards bedding?—They have common soldiers bedding; hammocks and palliasses filled with straw.

Describe the manner in which they were appropriated to accommodate that number?—They all slept in hammocks.

Were they hung one over another?—There were two tier, where it was of sufficient height; there were battens and stanchions; they were hung in the same way that sailors hammocks are.

Had they day-rooms for their eating?—The hammocks were all taken down in the morning at a certain hour, and either pulled up, if the weather would not admit to carry them out, or put under sheds out of doors; and all the rooms were perfectly clear and swept; and there they ate and messed if it was bad weather, and if not, they might mess in the yard.

Were there separate rooms for any separate class of prisoners?—The petty officers had a separate prison to themselves, a whole building; and there they accommodated each other in the best manner they could; old shipmates messed together, and officers of acquaintance selected themselves and messed together; there was no particular place for any particular person.

Was there a communication between the petty officers and the common prisoners?—No, no farther than they could speak to one another from their windows; there was no mixture.

Is the yard-room extensive for their daily exercise?—Yes, very extensive.

Is it covered in?—No, it is walled round, and an iron railing; there is an external wall, a dwarf wall, and iron palisades to keep the prisoners from going to the wall.

Did you employ the prisoners while they were there?—I do not recollect that we ever did; they employed themselves mostly, they made trinkets and little things themselves.

They worked at the various trades they pleased?—Yes, and they sold them themselves, and purchased what they pleased.

Can you speak at all of the quantum of money they were supposed to return in any given time?—I have heard it stated at 20,000 *l.* a year. I do not know whether it was so; and I have heard it stated sometimes at more. I forgot to mention that they made shoes for Government, for themselves, and were paid for it; they had wood and list sent them, and they made the shoes.

Describe their other employments?—They were employed in repairing the prison at times, and they built two new prisons, while they were there; they were employed as masons.

Did not they work in straw?—They did, but it was prohibited afterwards.

At one period they were allowed to work in straw?—Yes; they were to work in straw for trinkets, for baskets, and boxes; and I have seen bracelets of hair and things of that kind which they have made.

The straw manufacture was put a stop to, in consequence of the representation of the straw manufacturers to government?—Yes, it was prohibited, on account of their

Capt. J. Bowen.

their platting the straw, which was an injury to the manufacturers; the people of Bristol memorialized against it.

Did they not also make a considerable quantity of lace?—I do not recollect ever seeing any.

You have said that the value of their labour was estimated at 20,000 *l.*, have you not heard that that has been carried as high as 40,000 *l.*?—I have never heard that; but in conversation, people may have stated an opinion of that kind.

The whole of it was carried to their own credit, and they received the money?—Yes; but when their money was remitted to them, they were not allowed but a certain sum per week; there was a great deal of money remitted to them from France, and the agent for the prisoners took charge of it.

Was there a regular market where they laid out a considerable sum of money?—Yes, in any article they pleased.

You have stated before, that they built a prison there?—Two prisons.

Were they paid daily wages by the Government for it?—Yes.

Do you recollect how much?—Some at three-pence, and some at sixpence.

Were they allowed to go out to cut stone upon the moor?—I believe not out of the prison; Sir Manasseh Lopez got leave from Government to let a few out to make a road.

Did they not also build a church there?—They did build a church there, and several houses for the turnkeys and other officers.

Were their wages the same in that work as what you have spoken of before?—Yes.

With regard to the safety of the prison, do you think the prisoners would have been secure there, without a military guard?—By no means; because they have very great fogs there, and they cannot see the distance of half across this room, and we are obliged to double the number then.

You speak from the great number of persons there, and the extent of the prison?—Yes, from both; but if the walls were higher, as high as they are at the hospitals, and other places, to prevent seamen getting over, it would prevent it.

Would you conceive 9,000 prisoners of war safe any where without a guard?—Certainly not.

Have you a barrack there?—Yes, to hold 500 troops.

Can you speak of what was the expense of victualling per man?—It depends upon the difference of the contracts; we have had it as low as sixpence, and as high as eight-pence.

Could you state to the Committee what was the allowance?—The Committee will get much more correct information from the office in Parliament-street, from whence they may have the returns of the rations allowed; we changed them at various times.

What distance is Dartmoor from any market-town?—It is six or seven miles from Tavistock.

Is the communication easy by roads?—There is a turnpike road half a mile off.

What distance is it from any sea-port?—Fifteen or sixteen miles.

Is there any communication by road?—Yes, from Tavistock to Plymouth there is a shorter road, but not a very good one; Lophill up the Tavey is only nine miles, if that is called a seaport.

Sometime since the commissioners sent a report to Lord Sidmouth in the month of February 1815, recommending this prison for the use of convicts?—Yes, at the time the prison was cleared in the year 1815, at the end of the French war; the board thought it would be a very good opportunity of collecting the convicts there, and embarking them at Plymouth, instead of collecting them in London and sending them down the Channel at improper seasons, where they might be delayed two or three months.

You do not speak of the inconvenience of going down the Channel, so much as sending them out at an improper season from the Channel?—Both; for the navigation of the Channel is very dangerous, and sometimes they get ashore and are obliged to put back, and re-land the convicts.

The plan of the board was to send them immediately to this prison, from the various prisons throughout the kingdom?—Yes, and not send them to London at all; that the healthy part of them might be selected and put on board the ships, clean, neat and dry, and sail immediately and get out of the channel free of bad weather, that was the idea of the board.

What is the average time a vessel takes to get down the Channel from January to

Capt. J. Bowen. to June?—It is difficult to ascertain the average time; I have known them three months, and I have known them not more than three weeks.

Are the winds westerly very much in the winter season?—Yes, very much; we have a convict ship at Plymouth now full of convicts, that has been four months on her passage down Channel, the Tottenham.

Why has that convict ship been made subject to so long a detention?—She was detained, owing to the strong westerly gales prevailing in the winter season.

Have there not been trading vessels and men-of-war that were going to the westward, that have sailed within the last four months?—Many men-of-war and trading vessels were detained in the Downs, the same time the Tottenham was detained.

But you stated that she has been detained at Plymouth four months?—No, she has left the river four months, she is now at Plymouth, from the damage she received at the Downs; when she got down Channel, she was obliged to put in there to get repaired; the difficulty is in getting down the river and through the Downs.

What are the proper seasons of the year in which they should leave the Channel, in order to secure to them a healthy passage to New South Wales?—May, June, July, August and September.

If they sail at any other season of the year their health would be endangered?—That depends upon their success in getting out of the Channel; for if they sailed in February or March, and they got immediately out of the Channel, without encountering bad weather, and likewise without wetting and destroying their bedding, they might get across the Line and preserve their bedding, and get to the southward to meet the cold climate again; but if they sailed in bad weather, and were detained in the winter season in the Channel, they would be subject to wet and colds, and their bedding and clothing would be nearly destroyed, and then when they got to the southward to cross the Line in hot weather, most of those things would be thrown overboard as a nuisance, and when they arrived, in the month of June or July, on the coast of New Holland, meeting with the winter there, snow, storms and squalls, and having no clothing, colds and diseases would follow naturally.

Was that the case with the ship Surrey, which sailed in January 1814?—I suppose that was the cause; she sailed in January, and arrived in the dead of winter in New South Wales.

Is that a case that has often occurred?—Not very often; we have done all we can to prevent it; but we have been told the jails were so crowded they could not keep them any longer, and we were obliged to risk it.

In some cases they have been removed to the hulks, and taken from the hulks to the vessels to be so transported?—Yes.

And it has happened that the hulks have been over-crowded?—Yes, I suppose so; they go to the hulks at Sheerness, Woolwich, and Portsmouth, and then they are put on board the ships.

Do you know whether the men are sent immediately on board the vessels from the prison?—No, they are taken from the hulks at Woolwich, Sheerness and Portsmouth; the women are put on board at Deptford.

Speaking of the ship Surrey, do you recollect the number that died on the passage?—Of the crew, the convicts, and guard, altogether, there were about fifty.

What was the number of convicts on board?—That I cannot recollect; I believe, above 200.

Had you, during the time the prisoners were at Dartmoor, an inspecting physician and other medical officers?—There was a surgeon and assistants constantly on the spot; a physician, as inspector of hospitals, occasionally.

Had you from that medical board regular reports?—Yes.

How frequently were those reports made?—Weekly.

As far as your opinion goes, what were those reports, as to the health of the prisoners?—I was not on the committee where the doctor presided; Dr. Harness was the medical commissioner, and it came under his view; but as far as my recollection goes, they were generally healthy; there were measles and other diseases got in, but the reports in general were healthy; there were three officers sent to Plymouth to inquire into the general state of the prison, by order of the House of Commons, which was very favourable; they were healthier in general than in the barracks in England.

To what do you attribute the healthiness of the place?—They were not over-fed, that was one reason, and there was no drunkenness among them.

What

Capt. J. Bowen.

What is the state of the land?—There is some good land; it is a moor.

In what way was fuel procured?—Some was sent from Plymouth; they made turf themselves for their own use; but the cookery was all done by contract; therefore the contractor found fuel, and the officers of the guard found their own.

During the contract, was your bread baked on the spot?—They had a bakehouse there, and when they failed, which they did very often, we always kept biscuit in store to serve out to them whenever the bread turned out bad, or when they could not get their flour in time; we had always biscuit to issue, a pound of biscuit instead of a pound and half of bread.

There was accommodation on the spot to supply the prisoners, in case of the baker failing?—Yes, there were storehouses.

Did not they occasionally supply the prisoners with salt fish?—Yes, that was one part of the rations, herrings and cod; they had red herrings and white herrings.

You are perfectly acquainted with the situation of Plymouth?—I am.

Is not there a great supply of fish to be had off that coast, if persons were encouraged to go out to take it in this neighbourhood, if they had a sale for it?—I suppose there is as good fishing near Plymouth, as any where in England.

Could not a great supply of this fish be sent cheap to this prison, if it were more encouraged?—I think it is doubtful, taking the chance of what quantities would be stale before it got there; it would cause disease if they used it when it was not good.

Andrew Baird, Esq. M. D. called in; and Examined.

A. Baird, Esq.

WERE you, at the time of the prison at Dartmoor being occupied by the French prisoners, the inspecting physician?—I was inspector of his Majesty's hospitals, and prison hospitals.

How often did you visit the prison at Dartmoor?—I cannot exactly speak to that.

How many times in a year?—I have visited it, I should think, half-a-dozen times in a year: at one time, when sickness prevailed, I went to it very often; the average, I should think, was about four times in a year.

Were the prisons full nearly the whole of the time you were inspecting physician there?—Certainly not; I began the inspection of the prison at Dartmoor as soon as it was fit to receive them, and as war went on, the prisoners were increasing till they got to the number of 8,000.

State the general health of the prisoners during the time you visited it?—At particular periods the prison was particularly healthy; and at other times there was certainly sickness to a very considerable degree prevailed.

State your own opinion what was the cause of that particular illness?—The greatest sickness that prevailed at Dartmoor, was in the years 1809 and 1810; I should say from November 1809 to August 1810.

Was it very crowded at that time?—The prisons were crowded, certainly.

Do you impute much of the sickness to the crowded state of the prison?—I impute it partly to that, and partly to the very dirty and filthy state of the prisoners at that time; and I should say also, from the dirtiness of the prison. Mr. Alexander, who built the prison, erected sheds for the placing the prisoners hammocks when they were carried out; the then superintendent of the prison thought those sheds unnecessary, and they were taken down; the consequence was, that the prisoners hammocks hung up in the prison constantly day and night; the prison not having the usual and necessary ventilation, and the persons of the prisoners not being very well attended to, the filth and confined air had a considerable share in producing the sickness, and rendered very great exertions necessary in subduing it; it was not till considerable mortality had taken place, that we were able to subdue it. In the period of nine months, there were 436 died, generally of fever; there were about 800 ill at one time; and there were between 5 and 6,000 in the prison at that time.

The hammocks which they sleep in are in double tiers, are they not?—Yes.

And it is the same room in which they are constrained to live in the course of the day, and in which they sleep?—Yes.

They have no other day-room to be in?—In the construction of the prison, the wisdom of which I can never too much commend, there were galleries for the men to take their air in bad weather, when they could not walk out; those galleries, without my knowledge or approbation, were converted into wards for the prisoners to sleep in; that I conceive also to be cutting off a considerable source of health; we were

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were deprived of those galleries, which were necessary in the climate of Dartmoor, where there was so much rain; it was the act, I believe, of the superintendent.

Who took upon himself to make those alterations, without the advice or consent of the board?—I do not know whether he did it without the consent of the board; I should hope not.

Supposing the prison to be properly ventilated, and due attention paid to the cleanliness of the prisoners, how many might be confined there without injury to their health?—If the question refers to providing any space for them to work in, that would break in upon their sleeping room.

You mean, much would depend upon the arrangement of the prison, with regard to the employment of the prisoners?—Yes.

Do you think there would be accommodation for 2,000?—Yes.

After allowing ample space for airing ground, and the employment of the prisoners?—Looking at the Penitentiary, and the number that will receive, I should think 2,000.

Supposing the prison, as it now is, without converting any part of it into workshops at all, what portion of prisoners do you think it would allow to sleep in single beds, with due regard to their health?—If you reduce them from two tiers to one, of course only half the number could be accommodated, with attention to their health.

Taking day-room away, and work-rooms away, do you think then it would be very ample for 2,000?—Very ample.

What is the size of the rooms that hold the largest number to sleep?—They are all built on the same plan; some do hold more than others; there have been some of the buildings built to hold 1,200 men.

Do you mean one room?—No, one prison; as to the number each floor would take I am not competent to speak.

Would you esteem hammocks a healthy sort of bedding for people not accustomed to sleep in them?—I think, being able to be moved out in fine weather, they are much preferable to the others.

In the large buildings there were confined, when the prison was full, you say, 1,200 persons in each building, allowing 600 to each story; what number of persons do you think should be allowed to sleep in one of the upper stories?—I do not think, if they had confined themselves to the regulations of the prison, it would have been crowded at all; but the sheds were taken down, and then, instead of the hammocks being taken down every day, the prisoners nailed them up in the shape of a coffin, and there they remained night and day.

Is the extent of ground upon which the prison stands, for air and exercise, in your opinion sufficient for 8,000 prisoners, when there?—I certainly think it would have been desirable to have been more extensive.

Was it very ample for 4,000?—Yes, very ample; there have been several new buildings built since Mr. Alexander left it.

Do you reckon the situation healthy?—I cannot say it is a situation I would make choice of; if I was asked the question by Government, I should consider very much before I recommended it.

To what objection is it liable?—It is a very humid atmosphere; rain and very thick mists prevail; the great height it is above the level of the sea places it in the clouds almost, and in descending on to the moor, you leave Dartmoor enveloped in impenetrable mist; and having got five miles from where the prison stands, you find clear weather.

Were the effects of this humid atmosphere visible in the complaints that appeared among the prisoners?—When fever is either imported or generated in a prison, the difficulty in subduing it must be increased if the prisoners cannot go out in the open air, or breathe the open atmosphere; and that was the case there; for such was the difficulty I was exposed to during this sickness, that although there was not a bed, or particle of bedding, that was not in an impure state, I could not get any thing purified and dried at the moor, so that I was obliged to send all the hospital things, so rendered impure, to Plymouth Hospital, to be washed and cleaned.

You mean to say, then, that the humid state of the atmosphere was such that nothing you exposed could be dried?—Yes.

That was not constantly the case?—No; but if I was to say that rain and this mist prevailed nine months out of the year, I should say within the time.

Was the particular bad health or mortality, in 1810, the effect of bad regulations?
—I believe

A. Baird, Esq.

—I believe the bad regulations of the prison were very much the cause; if I was to say the whole, I should speak the truth. When sickness appears suddenly, the difficulty is to find out the cause of it; it was stated a prisoner had come from the Mill Prison with fever, which was imported into the prison; but I must say, that I saw enough of the want of regulation in the prison to account for the fever being there generated; and I am justified in this observation, because when the usual means of cleanliness, ventilation, and good order was established, sickness disappeared.

Has it never happened to any extent since?—The French prisoners continued healthy during the remainder of their time, which was from the year 1810 to 1814.

Is not your opinion of Dartmoor a speculative opinion, which the state of the health of the prison would contradict?—I think what I have stated, as to the difficulty of getting the clothing purified and cleaned, which I have been obliged to send to Plymouth, was in itself a sufficient reason to be cautious of erecting a prison where, if sickness was once imported, such difficulty would arise in curing it.

From experience, would you not say it was a healthy spot, though its appearances are against it?—There were great pains taken at the time; we were obliged to thin the prisoners afterwards. During the time the Americans were there, there was a sickness of a different complexion appeared amongst them.

Then you would rather say that their recovery from sickness was retarded, than that sickness was generated?—I should say so; but still I must say, that where such a humid atmosphere constantly prevails, it cannot be friendly to health.

Were there often rheumatic complaints?—No.

What are the usual effects of a humid atmosphere upon the health of the persons breathing it?—It will check perspiration.

Is not rheumatism one of the effects of that?—Yes.

How do you explain that, then; that there were no complaints of rheumatism?—I meant to say that rheumatism was not a prominent disease; it was typhus fever and inflammation of the lungs that were most prominent; when sickness prevailed to any great extent, cases of rheumatism occurred, but never to that extent to make it a prevailing disease.

Do you recollect at all what proportion the deaths of pulmonary complaints bear annually to the whole number of prisoners confined?—I cannot say; they did not prevail so much among the French as the Americans; the Americans were paid by their government during the time they were there; and, generally speaking, being almost all seamen, they had other money as well as this allowance from their government; and spirits were smuggled into the prison, and great excesses were committed: and that had a very great share in promoting pulmonary diseases.

The Committee are to understand there were not many deaths among the French prisoners, arising from pulmonary diseases?—I believe when they were in a healthy state, it was their prevailing disease, when there was an exemption from fever.

Do you think that that disease was to a greater sum per cent. of those persons so confined, above the same number of persons confined in the French prison at Portsmouth?—For a considerable time I had not an opportunity of visiting the prisoners at Portsmouth; the duty was divided between Doctor Wear and myself, and he had the visiting the eastern district.

Have you a knowledge of the state of the health of the inhabitants who have lived in the town ever since the building of the prison?—I believe they are healthy; I inquired into that; but I always conceived there was a considerable difference between two or three peasants in one house, and a vast body of prisoners under one roof.

Is it your opinion of prisons in general, though the crowd may be very great, that their health is as good as in cottages or villages?—Certainly; but in a situation where the prisoners have the advantage of a dry atmosphere, I conceive they must be more healthy.

Do you know the town of Tavistock?—Yes.

Have you any knowledge of the health of the people there?—I have not heard that there are any local diseases prevailing there.

Could you not have sent the bedding there, as well as to Plymouth?—I believe Tavistock is a place not at all exempted from rain; and we having a hospital we could send it to, at the distance of Plymouth, we sent it there.

Do you consider these pulmonary complaints were to be ascribed to the humidity of the atmosphere, or to circumstances regarding the previous health of the individuals?—I have spoken of the pulmonary complaints as more common among the American prisoners.

A. Baird, Esq.

Do you ascribe it to the humidity of the atmosphere?—I ascribe it to their own excesses, in a great measure.

Your opinion is, then, that pulmonary complaints are generally aggravated by a humid atmosphere?—I do not say so; pulmonary complaints generally suppress perspiration.

In answer to the question, then, you think they are not aggravated by a humid atmosphere?—It is a matter of extreme doubt; I believe, as far as the treatment of consumption goes, which is the most destructive disease in this country, medical men are much puzzled to discover, whether a dry atmosphere or a damp are most prejudicial.

Should you consider the situation of Dartmoor Prison, from the experience you have had of it, as a healthy situation for prisoners of any description?—I think, as all persons are subject to contagious diseases, where there are crowded numbers, that situation which shall give a difficulty in subduing that contagious fever cannot be one to make choice of, as I have stated, from the humidity of the atmosphere.

The provisions were contracted for, you are aware of?—Yes.

Was the bread that was used very brown bread?—Yes, it was.

Was, in your opinion, that brown bread in any degree the cause of any illness among the prisoners at any time?—I never had any evidence of that.

Do you consider brown bread as nutritive as the best white wheaten bread?—Certainly not; the great objection to the bread was the contract, which was so low they could not make it good: it was very often badly baked, and very often adulterated with very bad materials.

As a medical man, do you consider white wheaten bread as more nutritive, and consequently more wholesome than brown bread?—Yes.

The bread you are speaking of, for the French prisoners, was of wheat ground, without any bran taken from it at all?—That I cannot speak to: the bread that has often come under my observation, and of which I have heard complaints, appeared to have a great mixture of bran. Perhaps there is no part of the duty of the transport board that gives them more trouble than the complaints of the bread; for if a contractor was mulcted one day, though he would improve the bread for a short time afterwards, he was sure to return to the same thing again.

If the bread was made of the best wheat, with the bran only taken out, then the question would be, whether the bread made of meal of that description would not be equally wholesome with bread of the finest sort?—I do not see why it should not; I suppose it would.

Do you think it would be as nutritive, given in equal quantities?—I should think the finer the flour the more nutritive it would be.

During the sickness of your prisoners, when they were arriving at a convalescent state, were they allowed white bread, or the same brown bread?—There was a different sort of bread for the hospital.

Was it white?—It was much better than the other; the ration for the hospital was much higher than the other.

Is not Dartmoor Prison so situate as to make it absolutely necessary that there should be a medical establishment upon the spot?—Yes.

D. Alexander, Esq.

Daniel Alexander, Esq. called in; and Examined.

THE Committee understand you were the architect employed in constructing and building Dartmoor Prison?—I was.

In what year was it built?—It was begun in 1805, and finished in 1808.

Do you recollect the cost of the building?—About 127,000*l.*; that sum having saved to the public, as appears in a report I made upon the subject, 56,000*l.*, being the difference between using the stone quarries on the spot, and building with brick or any other material.

It is granite?—Yes.

Of a very durable kind?—Yes.

State what kind of building it is, in point of number of rooms, and their sizes?—I will furnish the Committee with a plan, describing the whole building, if the Committee will permit me: however, I will just state that the whole scheme is comprised in a circular plot of ground, containing about twenty-two acres, which is subdivided into rays, in which rays the buildings are placed, so as to afford complete separation and ventilation to the whole.

A. Baird, Esq.

Is there any central building?—No; the centre of the whole building is a bath of water.

Have you two boundary walls, one external, and another?—There is an external boundary wall, an internal boundary wall, and a palisade within, which makes the third.

What distance is the area between the outward boundary wall and the inner?—Thirty feet.

That forms a space for persons to guard the prison for its security?—The space between these boundary walls was called the Military way, and the walls were constructed with points resembling bastions, so as that the centinels could flank themselves every way, and guard the prison in proportion with a fewer number of men; the space between the inner boundary wall and the palisade, was termed No-man's-land: it was dug up, and planted with potatoes, and it was a fine of imprisonment for any prisoner to be found between the palisade and this inner boundary wall, except those who were at work.

Was the palisade easily scalable?—It was eight feet high, and very difficult to scale.

What was the height of the external wall?—The external boundary wall was ten feet, and the internal fourteen; the whole of this prison was supplied with water brought from the river Wolkham, by what is called a leat, which is a channel dug by the hill side, and it intersects the prison in the line of the axis of the prison, at about eighty-six feet above the highest ground, so as that that power might be applied to driving machinery, or any other article of mechanics to any extent.

The water is in considerable quantity?—Yes, it may be termed a small river.

The water that runs through this building carries off all the soil?—Yes; if the Committee will permit me, I will state how this water is conducted; it meets the prison in a large reservoir, and is then divided into five different channels, with sluices to regulate the quantity in each: two of those channels diverge to the right, and two to the left; they are conducted through the foul sewers of the prison, and the middle channel is preserved entirely separate, and forms the conduit for clean water to every part of the prison, and those are so formed as that the whole quantity might be sent down any channel, or distributed in the five channels at pleasure.

Is the water it supplies for food the same?—Yes, the same.

Is it pure?—Yes; it has no foreign substance in it whatever, because I had it analysed.

Taking the present state of the rooms, are they very capable of division, so as to create classification to the number of eight in a division?—The rooms may be divided into eight or ten.

What is the number of rooms?—Each prison only contains one room on each floor, somewhere about 170 or 180 feet long, by 33 or 34 broad; these dimensions refer only to the large building, as the lesser buildings are shorter.

Are they so constructed that you could, without difficulty, make a gallery on one side lighted, and on the other a sufficient number of chambers capable of containing one person each?—They could very easily be done so.

Is the prison fire-proof?—By no means, all the floors were constructed of timber.

Could the prison, from the present state of the walls, be so changed as to make the wall fire-proof?—It could.

Would the expense of making the alterations described be great?—I should think it would be considerable, but I have not formed any estimate.

Would any considerable difference be made in the expense, if the prisoners could be employed in that work?—I should think it would not make much difference; it is so difficult to get people of that description to work upon subjects of that nature in the interior of the building.

For quarrying stone, could not the prisoners be usefully employed?—Yes, certainly; the stone at Dartmoor exists in large quantities of different sized blocks of granite, congregated together, that lie above the surface, and which, in the language of the country, are called tors; it is a collection of many thousand tons, in a very small space of ground, and of blocks of all sizes, from five hundred tons to five tons, the quarrying of which would be very practicable by prisoners of any description.

From the manner in which the prison is built, could there be established any principle of general inspection?—I think the prison was designed to meet that especial end, by the concentrality of its principle.

Is there any place in the arrangement of the building where the governor, or the person

D. Alexander, Esq.

person at the head of the establishment, might be enabled to inspect all the different yards in which the prisoners were out taking their exercise?—The governor's house, as it is now placed, the building having been designed as a prison of war, was purposely placed outside the boundary-wall, because it was manifest he could not live in the midst of enemies; but if it was applied to any civil purpose, it would be obvious that the governor or keeper's house might be placed in the centre, for which there is ample space.

Do you think that prison, at not a very enormous expense, could be converted into a receptacle for convicts, containing within itself that principle of classification and separation so necessary to such an establishment?—I think it peculiarly adapted to that, and at a very moderate expense.

Limiting of course the number to a much less amount than it contained during the time of the French prisoners being there, would it thereby afford plenty of room for establishing workshops, for various kinds of internal labour?—I think it would.

What number, under all circumstances, taking in the circumstances that have been specified, should you think it capable of holding?—The prison has been added to since I left it, and I have not seen it since; but as it was originally constructed for 7,500 prisoners of war, I should have said at that time, it was fully capable of accommodating 2,000 in the usual way.

That is to say, giving to each prisoner a solitary cell?—Yes; but not a solitary cell in the mode in which I should build a prison, if I was to build one for that especial purpose, because in these buildings the solitary cells would be larger than I have ever seen them executed for civil purposes.

Of course the object of the solitary cell would be separation from his companions in the night-time?—Yes.

You think the prison fully capable of holding 2,000 persons, giving that accommodation?—Yes.

Is the land about the prison unclaimed moor land?—It is exceedingly various.

Is it land that might be had at a very slight expense?—Yes.

It would be easy, then, to take in any portion of land in the immediate neighbourhood of the prison, for the purpose of exercise or labour?—Perfectly so: I have already stated the prison occupied twenty-two acres; but these twenty-two acres are part of, I think, four hundred and ninety acres, which were granted by the Prince of Wales to the Transport Board for this especial purpose.

Is there land sufficiently good in this neighbourhood that can be cultivated, with any chance of success, for raising potatoes, garden-stuff, or for the ordinary purpose of husbandry?—I conceive there is a great deal of land applicable to those purposes.

So close to the prison that convicts, under a sufficient safeguard, might work it?—Yes.

Can you say how many acres it is probable may be had for such a purpose?—Many thousand acres may be had at a very cheap rate.

Would there be any difficulty in constructing flues to warm all parts of the building?—No, not the least.

Could a convict be employed in cutting the stone to any advantage, provided a canal or railway was made down to Lophill?—I think the convicts might be employed with great advantage in this way; and I have been surprised for years, it has not been done; the lands are so situate, with regard to the level and height above the sea, the inequality of its own surface, and the possession of such vast quantities of granite distributed all over it, that it seems to me formed by nature to send the stone down to the sea by canals or railways, which may seem most convenient.

Which is within nine miles of the prison?—Yes.

Was there a great quantity of turf cut for the use of the prison and the neighbourhood, at the time the prisoners were there?—There was; the custom was to send the prisoners out to cut the turf, in gangs, for themselves.

Do you think it would be a source of great trade for the supply of turf for Plymouth, provided it was procured by the convicts?—If a communication was made to Plymouth, there is no question a great quantity of turf would be sold.

By turf you mean peat?—Yes, the same, turf or peat, which forms the fuel for the whole of Holland, and many parts of Scotland; I should prefer a railway to a canal.

You were for some time residing on the moor?—I was very frequently on the spot.

Were

D. Alexander, Esq.

Were you there long without leaving it?—I do not suppose I resided there more than two months any one time.

You had a superintendent who resided there the whole time?—Yes.

Give the Committee your opinion of the health of the place, and your observations?—We always considered as to the number of workmen employed, with which alone I was concerned, that the place was remarkably healthy. I can only say of my own experience, that in twenty-two separate journies that I made to the spot, during the time the buildings were constructing, that I never went there but I had a cold, and in two days after I lost it.

Is it not a common observation, that persons who get wet through with this mist never catch cold?—It is the common remark of every body.

During the time that you were there, did vegetables, patatoes, cabbages, and such like, grow in a manner equal to any other place you are aware of?—I found all vegetables to grow, with this general remark, that they produced a smaller class, but much sweeter; the celery, cabbages, carrots and potatoes were much sweeter.

Is the ground about it at all productive of what could be raised by labour within a mile of the prison?—There are finer spots on Dartmoor, with respect to agricultural purposes, than where this prison is placed; there is very producible land within a mile or two of it, on which considerable depasturing of horned cattle takes place in the summer.

Are there a great quantity of cattle turned out in the summer upon the moor?—Yes.

Supposing the convicts to be confined within this prison, do you suppose the nature of the walls sufficient to keep them secure?—I think the inner boundary-wall should be heightened.

To what height?—To twenty feet.

How much lower would you sink the wall?—I could not lower it without pulling it down.

Do you not know that an escape was attempted under the walls by mining, on account of the soft ground on which the prison was built?—I rather apprehend the Committee allude to an escape attempted during the time the prison was occupied by prisoners, and that was by undermining into the gravel stratum amongst which the granite rocks promiscuously lie; they dug down about ten or twelve feet deep, and then ran what, in mining, is called an adit, under the bottoms of all the windings of this boundary-wall: they had measured their distance so accurately, that when they had got to the end of their adit, and were preparing to come to daylight, they just hit the inside of the boundary-wall instead of the outside: they were perceived by the sentry, on the ground gradually mouldering in, as sand does in an hour-glass, and in a short time up came eighteen or twenty Frenchmen inside the boundary-wall; of course an alarm was given, and they were immediately secured.

Lunæ, 20° *die Aprilis*, 1818.

Mr. ALDERMAN WOOD, in the Chair.

Sir *William Elford*, Bart. called in; and Examined.

Sir Wm. Elford.

WILL you have the goodness to state to the Committee the place of your residence?—Bickham.

How many miles is that from the Dartmoor prison?—I think about nine miles, and about two miles from the western extremity of the moors.

Have you been frequently at the prison to visit it, or near it?—I do not know that I was at it more than once; but I pass it very frequently, it being situated on the great road leading from my house through a short cut to the eastern part of the county: it is on the road to Exeter.

Are you acquainted with the land round Dartmoor prison?—Yes, I certainly know it.

Have

Sir Wm. Elford.

Have you seen any improvements in that land, or that neighbourhood, since you have known the spot?—Yes; considerable improvements, certainly, in the neighbourhood of the prison.

Do you think that if labour was very cheap that the moor could be improved at a very low rate; or, supposing that the convicts should be employed, do you think the land is capable of improvement?—I can only say that part of it has been improved; how far the expense is compensated by any result, I am really incapable of judging: I believe it has been cultivated at great expense.

Have any part of the borders of the moor been improved or cultivated, within your remembrance?—I think from the circumference encroachments have been made to the centre; those have been constantly taking place.

Do you think, where the experiment has been tried is the most improvable part of the moor?—I do not pretend to judge of that, because I never surveyed the moor with a view to have that question asked me; but that is the easiest way, I conceive, of making improvements, because the agricultural operations are carried on in the cheapest way by working from the circumference to the centre.

Do you think the elevation above the level of the sea, and the climate, are at all unfavourable to cultivation in that part of the moor on which the depôt was situated?—I conceive that, generally speaking, and being a little of a farmer myself, that the very high lands are less susceptible of improvements than those which are more sheltered.

The Committee wish to know whether you consider that the particular spot where the depôt is situated, being so elevated above the level of the sea, together with the nature of the climate, is such as materially to impede the cultivation of the land, or the growth of crops?—I should rather think so, because it is a large tract of country; and if it had been susceptible of cultivation, it would have been more completely cultivated than it is at present.

As your own family live within two miles of the moor, perhaps you will have the goodness to state to the Committee your general opinion with respect to the health of that neighbourhood?—I consider the neighbourhood in which I immediately live is a very healthy one; it is about seven or eight miles north of Plymouth.

Is it much beneath the level of the point on which Dartmoor prison is placed?—My house, I know by an experiment, is just five hundred feet above the level of the sea.

Is the level considerably lower than that of Dartmoor prison?—Very considerably lower; I know that my house, by an experiment made with the barometer, is five hundred feet above the level of the sea, which is much lower than the spot on which the depôt is placed.

Is the climate in that neighbourhood subject to fog?—A good deal.

Have you a good deal of rain?—Yes, a great deal of rain.

Having lived during a considerable time in the neighbourhood of the prison, you can state to the Committee what has been the general report of the health of the prisoners confined at Princetown?—I have only heard the general report; I have no authentic means of intelligence; the common report was, and I believe it, that the prisoners were unexpectedly healthy; I so express myself, because, when the prison was about to be built, the general idea was, that it was a shame to build a prison in such an unhealthy situation.

What are the general crops which are grown on the borders of the moor?—I think, more of oats than any thing else; but there are all the different crops to be found on the borders of the moor: there is some pasture, but the usual crops are peas, oats, barley, potatoes, and turnips; all those crops have been cultivated with tolerable success on the edges of the moor, and there are also grass seeds.

The farmers on the borders of the moor send cattle to summer on the moor, do they not?—Yes; some are sent from the right which the possession of the estates give them; others are sent, and are paid for; to whom the money goes I do no know. I generally send some black cattle myself, and also some sheep; the cattle are paid for at so much a head, and the sheep are paid for by the score; but to whom it goes I do not know.

Are you acquainted with any of the parishes on the immediate skirts of the moor?—Certainly I am.

And probably with a number of the people?—Certainly.

Is it your opinion that longevity prevails very much there?—Yes; no doubt of it.

Daniel Alexander, Esq.

Daniel Alexander, Esq. again called in; and Examined.

IS that which you hold in your hand a Plan of the prison of Dartmoor?—It is. [*It was delivered in.*] My object in presenting that plan to the Committee, is to show the considerability of the figures, to show the mode in which the buildings are separated, how the water is supplied to the various parts of the prison, the method of preventing escape by means of the double boundary wall, and how the prison is deposited within an area, as I stated in my former evidence, of about 495 acres. On looking over my papers, I find, if the Committee will permit me to state it, that the North Hessary Tor is about 1,250 feet above the level of the sea, that forms the southern boundary of the land appropriated to the prison; the prison is placed to the north of Hessary Tor, in a sort of valley about 400 feet below it, so that it would appear that the prison is about 850 feet above the level of the sea: those four hundred and ninety-five acres contain soils of various descriptions, some pasture that might be applied to that purpose, considerable quantities of peat, which was the leading idea of fixing the prison in that spot, on account of the facility of obtaining fuel; the whole is inclosed with a ditch, and a bank thrown up, which bank is planted with furze-seed.

Is there a large quantity of granite on the 500 acres?—No, I suppose that the granite has been mostly exhausted within the precinct of the prison; but the country round about it consists of nothing but a series of tors, which I before expressed to the Committee, composing distinct quarries of granite stone, to a very considerable extent.

Do you know whether any flax-seed has been grown there?—Not of my own knowledge.

Is the road a good one by which you approach the prison?—It is an excessively good road. The roads approach the prison three ways; one by Moreton Hampstead, being the London road; one from Jump, being the Plymouth road; and the other from Tavistock: all those are very good roads.

Were those roads, the whole or part of them, made at the time the prison was built?—The roads, before the prison was made, were very bad; but the materials are so very plentiful, that in a very short space of time the roads became exceedingly good.

It has been stated to the Committee, that, owing to the dampness of the climate, the bedding was obliged to be removed to Plymouth to be dried there; is it not your opinion, that at a small expense stoves might be constructed, and other means of drying rooms provided, within the limits of the prison?—Perfectly so, with great ease; and I may add, with great economy, because there is great abundance of peat for burning. The great fact about the moor, I will explain to the Committee, with regard to fuel, is, as much care ought to be taken of the harvest of turf as of the harvest of grain, that is to say, that turf intended to be burnt in the year 1818, ought to be provided in 1817, placed under sheds or stacked. I have seen turf pits from thirty to forty feet deep, in different parts of the moor, universally getting better as it gets lower; and the turf of the moor is essentially different from all the turf in Holland, because it is in a hilly country, and you can drain the water from it, but in Holland it is obliged to be pumped at very considerable expense; in the Dutch pits you must unwater your peat pits, but here the elevation of the country itself unwaters them.

Is there any difficulty in drying the peat?—None.

Are the people in that country much in the habit of using peat as fuel?—I used nothing else whilst I knew the prison.

Do the inhabitants of that district burn peat?—They burn nothing else.

Consequently the management of peat is perfectly understood?—Yes. I would beg to observe to the Committee, that the quantity of rain at Dartmoor, from the experiments that have been made when I was there, did not prove it to be more than two or three inches higher than at Plymouth, which was a fact that struck me as very extraordinary. I compared the pluviameter, or rain-gauge, which my people kept, for three years, against the pluviameter that had been kept at the Naval Hospital, and there was seldom more than three or four inches difference in the year. The climate of Dartmoor might be said to be damp cloud, not fog, which we consider as an exhalation coming up by the action of the sun; but these are the mere damps of clouds, floating vapours, and it floats about and crosses the North Hessary Tor, and the other Tors, in a most beautiful manner.

Have

Daniel Alexander, Esq.

Have you made any computation, since you were last before the Committee, of what would be the expense of erecting a central building, such as might suffice for the accommodation of a gaoler, in Dartmoor prison?—I have not made any estimate; but I apprehend 2,000 *l.* might build a house of that sort fully.

Have you got the materials on the spot?—Yes, we have got the materials on the spot. It has struck me, since I had the honour of attending the Committee, as I stated before, that the main buildings are not subdivided into distinct apartments; that that subdivision might very economically take place by platings of cast iron, so as to be perfectly separate and perfectly fire-proof.

Can you give a rough estimate of what those alterations would amount to?—I cannot; but a thousand pounds in cast-iron would go a great way.

Are the floors of the prison sufficiently strong to bear the weight?—Quite so.

Please to state what is the general quality of the granite upon the moor?—I should call the granite upon the moor not of the prime quality, such as the Aberdeen granite, nor is it of the worst quality of granite, such as the granite found in the neighbourhood of Penrynn, but it is of an intermediate class; there is less mica in the granite of Dartmoor than that of Penrynn. It will be found to be a very curious fact, centuries hence, that what has been supposed to be the most indestructible material, namely granite, will be found to be held together in its particles by mica, which is soluble in the atmosphere. The Eddystone light-house, which, among other light-houses round the island, is under my superintendence, as being an officer of the Trinity House, was built of granite, taken from the quarries at Constantine, in the neighbourhood of Penrynn, and several of the stones of that light-house are already, in the space of almost fifty years, three-eighths of an inch lessened upon their surface by the excoriations of the atmosphere upon the face of the stone.

By the atmosphere alone?—Yes, by the atmosphere alone.

What would be your opinion of stone for work under water, salt or fresh?—I do not think the mica would be affected there. I stated to the Committee before, that I thought the best means of conveying the stone to navigation was decidedly by a railway; in that country there are facilities for forming a railway equal to any country I ever saw, because the hills are so circumstanced that one can wind them in the gentlest declivities, and there is no spot where you have not stone at hand to lay the rails upon.

Then whatever number of men may be placed in this prison, there is no doubt of employment being found for them?—Not the least; and the mode of employing convicts, which I would beg to submit to the better judgment of the Committee, would be by gangs of hundreds and fifties being employed, under whom the whole might be drafted out to their respective works.

Supposing two thousand prisoners were sent there at the present moment, and they were classed into eight yards, without separate cells to sleep in, what do you consider would be the probable expense of putting the prison into a proper state for their reception?—I should think somewhere about two thousand pounds; the Committee must permit me to state that I have not made any estimate of the thing, and not having seen the place for seven years past, I am not able to state the facility of procuring stone for the walls for those airing yards.

What height do you consider the walls to be necessary?—Ten feet I should think sufficient. I would beg leave to state to this honourable Committee, that I am perfectly ready to give to any artist, any instruction that may be necessary to enable him to form a complete birds-eye view of the prison, similar to the drawing delivered in to the Committee; indeed I should be very happy to render any assistance whatever to further the designs of this Committee. With respect to the employment of convicts, I should propose that they be divided into gangs under captains of hundreds and captains of fifties, who might adopt the principle of giving them a certain portion of all their earnings as an encouragement; upon an average, we find that prisoners are induced to work with a ready hand if they get about two-fifths of what they earn.

You allude, the Committee suppose, to prisoners of war?—Yes, I allude to the prisoners of war; perhaps that sum might be too much for convicts: those trifling earnings perhaps would do to provide those little luxuries which are as necessary to a man as food; such as tobacco, and an extra flannel jacket, or an extra blanket.

Is there any thing else which occurs to you, which you would wish to state to the Committee?—There is nothing particular regarding the prison.

Or any thing relating to the land?—The improvement of Dartmoor, generally, I have

Daniel Alexander, Esq.

I have always considered must be a subject matter that must take place from the boundary inwards, and not from the centre outwards. I have known Dartmoor twenty-five years; it has been greatly growing over the interior of the moor, so that the cultivatable land has been increasing in proportion to the diminution of the waste land; so that in many parts of the moor the cultivatable approaches Dartmoor prison within two or three miles, where the pasturage is in very fine order.

Do you think, from the moor to Tavistock, and towards the river Ludwell, if the prisoners were employed in the removal of stone and cultivation, it would bring it into a state of perfect cultivation from thence to the town of Tavistock?—The village of Walkhamton is the nearest to Dartmoor prison, round which the land is exceedingly good; and that is part of the moor. The river Walkham supplies the prison with water, as well as goes to the village called Walkhamton.

How many miles is that village from the prison?—About three miles from North Hessary Tor, in a south-western direction. All the farmers round about Dartmoor have two separate rights of tenure; one is the right of turbary, that is, the cutting turf; and the other, which is a provincial term, the right of venville; this right of venville is a right of turning out sheep and horned cattle to depasture, during the summer months, free of expense.

Is that unlimited?—I do not know; I believe so many head per acre for every farm: the number of cattle who depasture on Dartmoor in this way is very great.

Patrick Milne, Esq.

Patrick Milne, Esq. a Member of the Committee, made the following Statement.

I KNOW of a piece of land of about sixty English acres, that of granite land, the same as Dartmoor is represented to be; it was improved upwards of sixty years ago, at an expense of twelve hundred pounds; six hundred pounds were drawn in for crops, and I have lately let the land at 2*l.* 10*s.* the English acre, in pasture.

What was it supposed to be worth at the time the improvement took place?—It was not worth one penny per acre; but it was leased at a perpetual lease at 2*s.* 6*d.* per Scotch acre, for the purpose of improvement. I will also mention to the Committee, that a friend of mine, who has such a moor of about five hundred acres, which till lately never brought him in sixpence an acre, has lately leased it out, for the purpose of improvement, on a perpetual lease from thirty to forty shillings per acre.

Is this land which you have stated, in the near neighbourhood of any large town?—Yes, it is in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen.

What crops were generally grown upon it?—Potatoes, turnips, bigg, and grass; those are the general crops.

Was there a considerable quantity of granite taken out of that land?—A very large quantity.

Can you say how much per acre?—No; it was quite covered with granite; I lately saw about an acre of land, from which a thousand tons of granite had been taken out, and the land was afterwards brought into a state of good cultivation.

Was there any peat upon this land?—There was very little, hardly any; it was almost all rocky.

You have stated, that this land which has been improved is in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen; are you of opinion, that land that is at a greater distance, say seven miles, that it would have paid sufficiently well to have attempted such an improvement?—No, I do not think it would pay six miles off.

What distance from the town of Aberdeen, in your opinion, might such improvement be attempted with advantage?—I have known it done at the distance of three miles.

But not farther?—No, not farther; not on such land.

What rent is derived from land at three miles?—Three pounds a Scotch acre, or 2*l.* 10*s.* an English acre, as I have before stated.

You have stated, that a part of the property of a friend of yours was greatly improved; would it have been practicable to have gone on with that improvement had there not been a market for the stone that was removed?—Certainly not.

Can you give the Committee any idea of what was the actual expense of clearing and manuring such land per Scotch acre?—I have myself done it for thirty pounds, and in some instances it has cost me at the rate of an hundred pounds.

Then would you suppose sixty pounds a fair average?—I think it would; that is, for clearing, inclosing and manuring; but in that case you must take credit for the first two or three crops.

Would that go far towards paying the expense?—It would pay about one half.

Mercurii, 22° die Aprilis, 1818.

Mr. Alderman WOOD, in the Chair.

Mr. Thomas Wadd.

Mr. *Thomas Wadd,* Surgeon of the Debtors Prison, Whitecross-street, called in; and Examined.

SINCE the Committee have visited Whitecross-street Prison, what alterations have been made in the Infirmary?—An adjoining room has been added, which contains ten beds; there has been a communication made between the Infirmary and the room I have mentioned; there has been a door opened through the wall, communicating with the sick ward, which will give every additional assistance required.

They will have a room open to the convalescent room, and two sick ward rooms?—Yes; thereby allowing the separation of persons afflicted with different diseases. There are two additional wards.

There was a complaint of a bad smell from the privy in the infirmary when the Committee were there last?—There was.

Is that remedied?—It is remedied: there were parts of the prisoners clothes thrown in, and other things which ought not to have been there, which obstructed the pipe of the water closet, so that the soil did not get vent. There are two additional windows opened in the new room, which gives great facility for letting in air.

Do you think now, that with this additional room, there is perfect accommodation for all the cases that can occur, or are likely to arise?—I should say so, certainly.

What number of sick patients have you now?—There are 18 in the infirmary, and about 13 out-patients, making together about 31, which was yesterday's return to the court.

What are the total number of beds now?—I think 30, taking the mens infirmary, exclusive of the womens, where there are six more.

Is the person that the Committee found there in a state of insanity removed?—He is removed by the parish officers, having been discharged from the custody of the sheriff. We were applying to have him removed at the time the Committee visited the prison, but we were not able to accomplish it then. About three weeks ago he was removed by the parish officers, by whom he was taken to a madhouse at Hoxton, where he has since died; and the coroner's jury sat upon his body.

How many insane persons have you had since you have been surgeon to the prison?—Eight, as prisoners for debt; and I have reason to believe that the greater portion of that number had been put in by their friends. The last instance was a case where a father arrested his daughter for board and lodging. She was removed from the prison in consequence of her friends being threatened by a prosecution on the part of the city of London. In the other instances the insane prisoners have been removed in consequence of the city having ordered their solicitor to make inquiries in what manner they had been arrested and placed there.

Colonel Wood.

Colonel *Wood,* a Member of the Committee, Examined.

AT what time was your regiment, the East Middlesex, at Dartmoor?—During the months of October and November 1815.

What time did it arrive there?—Early in October.

How long did it remain there?—Two months.

Be so good as to state your opinion of the situation of Dartmoor, in point of health?—I wish to state that the East Middlesex Militia went there under particular circumstances. It was re-embodied on the return of Buonaparté from Elba, in the month of July; and as soon as the men were called together, they were sent to Chatham; and after they had been at Chatham a very short time, a very few weeks, they received a route immediately to march to Dartmoor, which they did; and there being a scarcity of troops in that part of the country at the time, they were not permitted to rendezvous at Plymouth, where it had been the custom to assemble regiments in general previous to taking the duty of Dartmoor, but they went immediately

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from their march to that station, and consequently they were not previously seasoned, either to a military life, or accustomed to the climate of that particular part of the country: however, no serious sickness was the consequence of their being sent on that duty in the hurried manner above alluded to. As far as I understand, there has never been amongst any of the troops stationed there, a greater degree of sickness than is commonly attendant on such duties.

Be so good as to state the nature of the duty?—The duty consists in mounting a large guard, consisting of 120 privates, and which furnished 40 sentries. The frequent recurrence of the duty will of course depend upon the strength of the garrison. But at Dartmoor that number can never be increased above a certain amount, because there are only accommodations for a certain number of troops, and the number of sentries can never be diminished, because it is necessary to surround one of the walls entirely with sentries. This observation applies merely to the number of sentries necessary to keep a look out; the strength of the force to be detained at such a station must depend upon the persons whose duty it is to restrain.

Of what nature are the walls of the prison?—In the first place there is a palisade which cuts off all communication with the sentry from the persons within. This palisade is surrounded by a wall, on the top of which platforms are erected for the sentries to walk; and bells are suspended at different parts of the walls, connected all round the top with wires, which would be rung by any person getting over the wall in a very dark and blowing night, when the sentry might not otherwise discover him: there is then an outer wall, to prevent any person running off into the country, who under the cover of a very dark night might have succeeded in getting over the first wall before the sentry should have time to stop him. I will add, that the duty of Dartmoor has always been done by a detachment of infantry sent from the garrison of Plymouth, amounting to between 550 and 600 men; and it has been the practice to relieve these detachments once in three months. It is certainly desirable that the soldiers should not be called upon to mount guard more frequently than every third night; because this is a duty in which extreme vigilance is necessary, and it is hardly possible to expect that degree of vigilance which would prevent the escape of any person detained in the prison, if the soldier's rest is broken more frequently than every third night.

Do you not think that the barracks being so contiguous to the prison, would render a less number of men necessary than if that were not the case, to mount guard nightly in case of any riot or disturbance?—The guard that will always be necessary, must be of sufficient strength to furnish sentries sufficient to enable them to communicate with each other on the walls, and to prevent any person in dark and wet nights from passing between their posts; such, I should conceive, would be all the guard that is necessary. In the event of any forced attempt to escape, of course the nearer the barracks the more readily will the troops be at hand to give the necessary assistance to prevent it. Each guard should consist of three relieves. I beg leave to add, that whenever I have been on duty over French prisoners, I have always observed that it required the greatest degree of vigilance on the part of the sentries to prevent escapes, and that, notwithstanding every possible care, a prisoner would succeed occasionally in getting away, although such escape might be considered impossible. Neither do I conceive that troops ought to be kept too long on such duties, as that alertness which they show on first coming on such duties by degrees wears off; and even in the case of French prisoners, it was found almost impossible at times to prevent soldiers from getting acquainted with them.

This evidence applies to the safe keeping of French prisoners?—Certainly; but it must be obvious to the Committee, that a French prisoner had not only to effect his escape out of prison, but also, after having effected his escape from the prison, he had afterwards to work his way out of the country; whereas a convict would only have to effect his escape out of the prison, and would then find himself in his own country.

So far as your opinion and knowledge goes of the state of Dartmoor, do you think it a very healthy spot?—I should think it perfectly healthy.

It has been imagined that, from the damp situation of Dartmoor, that there is a difficulty in drying the linen of the soldiery upon duty there; did you find any difficulty of that sort when you were on duty at Dartmoor?—I never heard of any difficulty of that sort. Of course the washing of the regiment went on as at all other places; and the water is particularly good.

Colonel Wood.

Then there was no occasion to send the clothes to be dried any where else?—The regimental clothes were certainly not sent any where else to be dried. Of the prisoners clothes I cannot speak.

The regimental clothes, you say, were not sent any where else to be dried?—No, they were not. The weather is damp, certainly, in that situation, from the height of the situation.

Did the soldiers suffer much from the dampness of the situation?—No. The regiment left Chatham with 41 sick; its effective strength was then 544: at Dartmoor the sick list was reduced to 37, and the numbers of the regiment increased to 651.

Had they any rheumatic pains?—No.

Rev. H. S. Cotton.

The Reverend *Horace Salusbury Cotton*, called in; and Examined.

[*The witness made some verbal corrections in his former evidence.*]

HAVE you any thing to add to or alter in your evidence of a former day?—I have nothing beyond the alterations which I have already made. I am ready to answer any further questions which the Committee may think proper to ask.

When you were examined before the Committee some time back, were you not suffering under an attack of illness?—I was exceedingly ill: so ill that I expected to faint away while sitting in the room.

Had you been cupped that day?—I had been that morning attending an execution, and I was afterwards cupped and was excessively unwell.

Are visitors excluded from Newgate on Sundays?—Yes.

They are altogether excluded?—Altogether.

Visitors to the condemned prisoners, to the tried as well as the untried, on Sundays, are entirely excluded?—Yes.

Do you know whether any inconvenience, in the nature of hardship, has arisen to any of the prisoners from such a regulation?—I know one or two instances of country people who were under sentence of death, whose wives and families lived perhaps 16 miles from London. They cannot be admitted on Sundays by the new regulation of the prison. The consequence is that the wives of such prisoners must lose one or two days in the week in coming up to see their husbands. I met with a woman three or four days ago, or rather longer than that, since this regulation took place, who came into the prison, and I spoke to her upon the subject. I knew that she came a great distance from town. I said, "why did you not come on the Sunday, as you have been accustomed to do?" she said, she could not, as there was no admission to the prison on a Sunday. I said, "what time did you set out to come here to see your husband?" she replied, "I set out last night, at half past eleven; I have walked all the night, and I am now got here." I then asked her what time it would take her to get home? and she replied it would take her about the same time; and that she should be ready to set off to walk home on the morrow. Including the time of her coming, her stay, and her going home again, it appeared to me that she would lose two days labour and her time in coming to see her husband; whereas she would have saved one day, at least, if country friends were admitted to see the prisoners on Sunday.

Would there have been any inconvenience in admitting the friends of condemned criminals to visit them on a Sunday, agreeably to the regulations of the prison?—No, I cannot see that there would be any inconvenience arising from such a permission.

Are the turnkeys in the same attendance on a Sunday as on the other days of the week?—Not exactly so; there are one or two turnkeys less on a Sunday than on any other day, because they get leave of absence, in turn, and leave the prison on a Sunday.

Do you think that there is a sufficient strength of establishment of turnkeys remaining within the prison of a Sunday, which could without any inconvenience admit of individuals, within the limited hours appointed by the rules of the prison, to see their friends in the condemned cells?—Certainly.

It does not strike you that there would be the least impropriety in permitting such admissions?—I cannot conceive any. I think it would be a great convenience to the unfortunate people.

Have you any means of knowing why this regulation was adopted, of preventing individuals from visiting their unfortunate relations on a Sunday?—I only know that the regulation came from the Court of Aldermen; what dictated it to them I cannot say.

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Have you the means of knowing for what reason it was adopted?—No.

Of what date is the order?—I cannot be exact as to the date, but I think it is since the last session that it has been put in force.

Is it not since the Court of Aldermen have ordered two services on the Sunday, there being only one service performed before?—I cannot tell the date of the regulation of the Court of Aldermen. All that I can speak to is the length of time it has been put in practice: I think it has been put in practice since the last session at the Old Bailey.

Was it not put in force at or about the ending of the last session?—It was put in force just at the close of the last session. The service was renewed before. The moment the Committee expressed dissatisfaction, I renewed the service.

Do you think that the preventing of country prisoners from seeing their friends on a Sunday, a great hardship to those individuals?—I think it a great hardship to their friends who came up out of the country. We have two men under sentence of death now; and, by accident, I learned from one of them, on Friday last, that he had written down to his friends at Slough, in Buckinghamshire, to come up and see him on the following Sunday. I told him that there was no admission to the prison of a Sunday, and I advised him not to let them come up on that day, but to write down and desire them to come up another day. I found this out by mere accident; and the poor man's friends must have been disappointed if they had come up on the Sunday from Slough, which is a distance of twenty miles from town.

What are the regulations under which you act relative to the administration of the sacrament within the prison?—I have heretofore exercised my own discretion in administering the sacrament; and I have administered it as we do in parish churches, viz. four times a year. Since some inquiry here, it has been directed to me to administer it twelve times a year. When I say I have administered it four times a year heretofore, in point of fact I must administer it nine or ten times a year; but I merely mean to say, that I have heretofore regularly administered it four times a year, that is once in every quarter. Besides this, I have sometimes administered it in the condemned cells, and I admit others to partake of the sacrament besides those that are to suffer, if they are anxious to receive it. The last Sunday I did not administer it, but I intend to administer it to-morrow to those who are to suffer. The Report came down only on the Saturday night, and I did not chuse on the Sunday morning to administer it until I had some conversation with the unfortunate persons ordered for execution, to see whether they understood the nature of it. I did not chuse to call upon them to take it next morning, until I made some inquiry into their state of mind.

Have you the same instructions that were given to your predecessor, in administering the sacrament twelve times a year?—Yes.

When you administer the sacrament to those persons who are under sentence of death, is notice of it given in the prison, in order that persons who may be inclined to communicate may have an opportunity of attending?—No. When the sacrament is administered four times a year in the chapel, notice is given the same as it would be in the parish church; but the sacrament is administered rather privately than otherwise to the people who are about to suffer, and therefore I select only those who are in a fit state to communicate.

In point of fact, is it the custom for other persons, besides those who are under sentence of death, to communicate?—Sometimes it is. Sometimes I have people who come out of doors, not being prisoners, who are anxious to communicate.

You exercise your discretion, as the Ordinary of Newgate, in selecting those persons whose state is, in your opinion, fit to receive the sacrament?—Most undoubtedly.

Do you consider yourself now to have the discretion of administering the sacrament more than four times a year; or do you think yourself obliged to comply with the strict letter of those regulations from the Court of Aldermen, which you have so recently received?—Certainly, I feel myself obliged, as their officer, to obey them; for I was strongly urged, literally to obey their orders; at the same time, certainly, I took the liberty of suggesting to the Court of Aldermen that such instructions were hardly necessary, although I was willing strictly to conform to them; and I did hope that their instructions would be revised.

You then consider yourself, being the clergyman, as the most proper person to decide (acting upon your own discretion) whether the sacrament should or should not be administered; your discretion, of course, being decided by the state of the prisoner

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soner?—Speaking as a clergyman, I say, certainly; but I don't wish to put my judgment against that of the Court of Aldermen; but, speaking as a clergyman, I think I ought to exercise my own discretion upon the subject.

Supposing that you were not to administer the sacrament more than once a quarter, would there not be a great number of persons that would have come into the prison and gone out again, without having the opportunity of receiving the sacrament?—Not without having an opportunity, for they have only to signify a wish to me; and though, by the regulations of the Church, I ought not to administer it, yet I must be allowed some little latitude, and I treat them then as sick persons, and administer it to them in private; for we are bound not to administer it otherwise than by the ordinances of the Church.

You mean to say, that if any one had asked you, you would have administered the sacrament privately?—Most undoubtedly; but then I would treat the applicant as a sick person. I have sworn to obey the rules and ordinances of the Church; and I don't wish unnecessarily to break through them.

How are the individuals who are so inclined, to know that you would do so, when there is no public notice given of the sacrament?—There is public notice given previous to Sacrament Sundays; but there would be no occasion for any previous notice to those who wish to receive the sacrament in the way I have just mentioned, for they who possessed this religious feeling would be sure to consult me without any notice. It would be natural that a person so inclined should apply to me upon the subject; and certainly it would be a great comfort to me to administer the sacrament to any person who would say, "Can you administer it?" A person impressed with this feeling would be sure to apply to me unsolicited.

You have stated just now that you did not administer the sacrament on Sunday last to those persons who have been condemned to die, not having known whether they were previously prepared to receive it?—Yes.

Have you not visited them during their confinement in the cells, so as to have informed yourself of their state of preparation?—Continually; I have visited them continually, and conversed with them.

How comes it then that you are not possessed of the information necessary for you to administer the sacrament to them?—If the Committee will only consider the particular circumstances in which the unfortunate persons are placed on such an occasion, viz. the certainty of death, which is ordered to be executed upon them, and that they have no notice of this until a few hours before the time when I would regularly administer the sacrament, probably the Committee may conceive that the frame of mind in which the unhappy persons must then be is not very fit to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Do you not communicate with those that are under sentence of death in the Press Yard from time to time, so as to know whether they are ready to receive, or willing to receive the sacrament?—Yes; but after the flurry of a report coming down, by which in a few days they are ordered for execution, they begin to be very angry with the prosecutors, or to find fault with some of the witnesses, and they are not in that state of charity and love I could wish, and therefore I would rather delay the administration of that solemn sacrament until their minds were more composed. That is the principal reason why I did not administer the sacrament last Sunday.

Have these two unfortunate persons who are now under sentence of death, and are ordered for execution, ever partaken of the sacrament since they were in confinement?—They have not since they have been with me.

How long have they been in confinement?—I think they have been under sentence of death for two months.

Have you frequently attended persons under sentence of death for forgery?—Frequently.

Have you observed, in persons under sentence of death for forgery, an equal sense of guilt with that which is observable in other criminals. In order to point your attention more particularly to the object of my question, I would mention, in the first instance, the case of a person under sentence of death for the forgery of small bank notes?—Certainly there is not that sense of guilt in them; their souls are not so oppressed with a sense of guilt; they constantly look upon the punishment of death inflicted upon them as too severe; they continually say, that the laws of God are against it. They say, "We have not committed murder; we have not committed treason; we have not hurt any body personally; we have committed no felony."

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The answer that you have now given applies nearly in a similar degree to all cases in which capital punishment is inflicted for the forgery of bills of exchange?—In a great measure.

Would you extend that observation to any other class of crimes which are capitally punished?—No, very few other crimes are capitally punished, in point of fact.

When the warrant comes down which selects out of the number that are under sentence of death, a few who are to be executed, does it not find the whole, generally speaking, in a most unprepared state to receive it?—Generally speaking, it does.

Do not by far the greater part of those persons who are under sentence pass their time in any thing, and in any way, rather than in the consideration of their awful situation?—Yes.

Generally speaking, have you not, as a clergyman, great difficulty, in consequence of the mixture of all classes together, in diverting the mind of the condemned from the scenes that are around them, to the review of their past life, and to the consideration of the future?—Certainly.

When this warrant comes down, is not, generally speaking, the first feeling one of anger?—Generally speaking, it is.

Do you not find it often a great difficulty to recal the mind of the person who is about to suffer, to the notice of the punishment to be inflicted?—Yes, indeed.

Against whom is their anger directed?—Either against a particular witness or against the prosecutor; against the Bank of England, if they are the prosecutors, and against the severity of the law.

Then, until you have brought the mind of the sufferer to a sense of peace and charity towards men, do you think him fit to take the communion of the Church of England?—No.

Do you observe, in the majority of persons under sentence of death, an apparent security grounded upon the uncertainty of the execution of the law?—Most undoubtedly.

That feeling prevails in a great majority of instances?—Yes.

Do you think that the greater part of those persons who know, by the practice of the law, that they will not suffer, are in a fit state to receive the sacrament?—No.

Should you not think the compulsion of the sacrament a profanation?—Undoubtedly I should.

Upon the supposition that the number of capital punishments being greatly diminished, so as to be proportioned in some measure to the enormity of the offence committed; and upon the further supposition of the almost infallible execution of the law in cases in which capital punishment has once been awarded; do you not, as a clergyman, believe that you would be able to make a much deeper impression upon the minds of the culprits who are in that unhappy condition?—Yes, certainly.

How many persons were in the condemned cells before the last report came down?—I think about 36.

There were three in each cell, or nearly so?—Nearly so.

Of those numbers, how many are ordered for execution?—Only part of them have been reported; two of them are ordered for execution, one woman and one man.

Generally speaking, what is the religious feeling amongst those 36 persons whom you have mentioned?—Very dead.

Are they alive to the sense of their own situation?—Not generally speaking.

Have you been in the habit of seeing them constantly?—Yes.

Do you not think that the promiscuous assemblage of them, tends to deaden any religious feeling which you might otherwise have it in your power to excite?—Very much so.

In cases of execution for forgery, does it appear to you that any moral effect is worked on the mind of the spectators?—None; I think I may venture to say none.

What effects are produced by such executions?—They merely come to see an execution of that kind as a spectacle; they go away again and waste their time; and many of the spectators commit crimes, as I have reason to suppose, before the night closes, after witnessing such a scene: nay, we had a boy brought in some time ago, who had only a few days before been out of Newgate; he was brought in for picking pockets under the gallows; and when I spoke to him upon the subject, and said, "How could you do such a thing at such an awful moment?" he said, "Sir, that was the best moment in the world, for every body's eyes were up when the drop was falling." Such is the case: I say that in corroboration of the absence of feeling in the crowd.

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Have any expressions of indignation been used within your hearing by the spectators of such executions as those to which the Committee allude?—Yes, I recollect instances of the populace groaning and hooting.

And what has been the effect within the prison in the same case, on knowing that some of their fellow-creatures were to suffer death; have similar effects been observable there?—Yes, in cases of execution for this particular crime; but whenever a person is to suffer for a detestable crime, or for a murder, you find all the population of the prison say that he or she richly deserve their fate.

Are you aware of the quantity of food which is now, by the new arrangement, given to each prisoner?—Yes.

What is it?—I have seen some of the allowances weighed.

State what it is?—They have a quart of gruel for breakfast. One day they have broth, the next day they have meat. I think there is rather better than a pint of broth; and the meat I have seen weighed in two or three instances, consisted in one portion of about five ounces, and in the other there were about six ounces, the weighing having taken place after the meat was dressed.

Have you had any complaints made to you from the prisoners as to its insufficiency?—Yes, repeatedly.

Do they like the new plan as well as the old?—I don't think they like it so well; but if I were asked my own opinion, I should say that the new plan was much better than the old.

Have the prisoners ever expressed a wish to you that they might make this change in the plan, viz. to have raw potatoes to dress in the prison?—Yes.

Do you think that if that permission were granted to them, it would be attended with inconveniencies that attach to the old system of cooking?—No.

Are you aware that the Court of Aldermen have given leave for the prisoners to boil any potatoes they may want, and that the cook has the power of boiling any quantity of potatoes they please, by putting them in nets?—I am aware that the Court of Aldermen have said so; but how are they to get their potatoes boiled in that way? One woman, perhaps, wants only two potatoes boiled, and another three, and it would set them all quarrelling in the re-delivery of the potatoes after they were boiled. If the Court of Aldermen were to allow them some bushels of potatoes to be sent into them ready drest, that would do them good.

Are irons left off in any part of the prison?—Yes, in the untried side, since the last session.

Is that a general regulation?—It has been adopted generally in the untried side.

Have any inconveniences resulted from it as yet?—No.

Have you seen any of the boys who were under sentence of death in the condemned cells, since they have been removed from them?—There are none this time; but I have seen some who had been there some time before.

How many boys are there in the condemned cells under the age of sixteen?—Three, I think.

Do the prisoners appear more satisfied without irons, and do they show a disposition to behave better, in consequence of the irons being taken off?—In that part o the prison where the irons are not used, that disposition seems to prevail.

Veneris, 24° die Aprilis, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Mr. William Frend.

Mr. *William Frend,* called in; and Examined.

YOU were foreman of the coroner's jury, on more occasions than one, who sat upon the bodies of persons who died in Bridewell?—I have only been foreman in one instance; but I have sat several times on coroner's juries, upon the bodies of persons who died in Bridewell.

Be so good as to state in what instance you acted as foreman of the coroner's jury?—That in which I was foreman of the jury was about two years since. It was the

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the case of a poor man who was taken up in the streets and brought to the Bridewell; and he was brought in in so deplorable a state that he died very soon afterwards; and we were obliged to give our verdict, (which we did with exceeding unwillingness,) that he died for want of the common necessaries of life. But this I may say, that his death was not at all owing to any ill treatment he received in the prison of Bridewell; for it was found, after a very patient investigation of the case, that he was brought into the prison in such a state that nothing which could be done for him in Bridewell could have saved him, and there was no want of medical assistance nor of attention to him: in fact, there was every possible attention shown him, and every care taken to preserve his life. That was the first case to which I alluded. I would here beg leave to take notice of a difficulty under which we labour with respect to coroner's juries. Our district is so very small that we have very few people who are competent to sit on such juries, and consequently it is with very great difficulty that we sometimes can get a full jury. Indeed upon the first occasion on which I was called upon to act, it was with very great difficulty that we summoned a jury. One gentleman was called upon to swear, who would not take the juror's oath because he was a Quaker; and the consequence was, that we lost the benefit of, perhaps, one of the best possible coadjutors upon such an occasion; for I look upon the oath of a Quaker with more respect and confidence than the oath of another person.

Do you wish the latter part of your answer to remain upon the Minutes?—Certainly I have no objection. It is a cause of great concern to us that we cannot find persons always willing to serve as jurors; and consequently this tends very much to diminish the number of our jurors. I merely throw this out for the consideration of the Committee, as a disadvantage under which we labour. Since the first case that I have mentioned to the Committee, I sat as a juror upon the bodies of two other persons who were lying dead in the prison. We examined into all the circumstances of the two cases respectively.

You are now speaking of recent occasions, when you sat on the coroner's jury?—Yes; I am speaking of recent cases.

When did those cases occur?—These were cases which happened within this last winter. The foreman of that jury in fact lives in Bridewell. He is one of the inhabitants, and is a very eminent printer.

State what occurred on that occasion?—We examined into the cases of these two unfortunate persons: we went to examine the bodies, as usual; and after inquiring into all the particulars of their cases, we found from all that had been done, that every degree of attention had been paid to them, consistently with their station and the place in which they died: and for persons in their situation of life, the place was as good as could be had, as appears to my judgment. But the circumstance which struck the jury as most extraordinary, and it in fact was the only thing of importance, was the situation in which the persons died. It appeared that they were left, for a length of time, shut up by the rules of the prison, unattended by any other person but the common turnkey; and certainly it was impossible for a man so situated to give a person in a sick and dying condition, the attention that we thought requisite for the unhappy persons who had died. It therefore struck us as a thing to be lamented, that there was no infirmary in the prison. We thought it a most desirable thing, and one very much to be wished for, that there should be an infirmary, and that every person in that situation should be kept apart from the others, and separate from the common prisoners. Undoubtedly the place in which these unfortunate persons were was not adapted to their situation. The place where sick persons are confined in Bridewell is a large chamber of wood. These poor men had a bed, but it was not that sort of bed on which it would be wished that a dying person should lie upon.

Inform the Committee where you found the bodies of these two persons; in what room?—They were in the very room in which they had died.

And was this the room in which other persons were lodging and sleeping?—No, that was not so, as we understood. They had had no other persons with them.

They were in a room distinct from that in which other prisoners and vagrants were?—The other prisoners were in the next room to that in which the deceased were. The room in which we visited them was one of a range of rooms, and we visited them in the place in which they happened to die.

Then the room in which they were lying might have been used by other persons?—The room in which they were was the one in which they had died, and that in which

Mr. William Frend. which I understood they had been placed at first. We were shown into the room in which the deceased were lying, and there were doors leading into this room from other parts of the prison.

The Committee understand that the rooms in Bridewell are very large, and consequently this room must have been occupied by more than two prisoners?—That might have been so, but I saw no other persons whatever in the room. There might have been other persons there before we saw the bodies, but certainly there were no other persons confined with the sick persons that we saw.

Do you mean to say that there was no infirmary in Bridewell?—Certainly we saw none; and that was a thing which we, as the coroner's jury, rather lamented. But, with respect to the other parts of the cases, it seemed to us clear that there was no want of attention to the deceased before they died, as far as the regulations of the prison would admit.

Your complaint was entirely confined to the circumstance of the unfortunate persons being allowed to remain in the place in which they were first lodged in a state of illness, and not removed to an infirmary?—That seems to me to be the defect of the prison; but whether that defect can be remedied or no, I cannot say.

The Committee have been informed, that there is an infirmary in Bridewell, but that it is very little used?—If they have an infirmary, it is more than I know. I can only speak to the facts that I saw; but at the same time I must say, that there appeared to be no want of attention to the unfortunate persons while they were in the prison.

Had these persons been long in the prison before they died?—The first man died within three or four days after he came into the prison. He was starved when he came in. They could not keep him alive any longer. I don't myself see, as far as I could observe, that the fate of these unfortunate men could be averted, as there was every kindness shown to them whilst in confinement. The only objection that I saw, was the want of an infirmary.

You found that to be the objection in all the cases you attended?—In each case that I attended, that seemed to me to be the only point worthy of notice.

William Dyker, Esq.

William Dyker, Esquire, called in; and Examined.

YOU are a surgeon, residing at Great Marlow, in Buckinghamshire?—Yes.

You were surgeon at Dartmoor prison during the time the French prisoners were there?—Yes.

How long were you there?—I was there for five years altogether.

The Committee are very desirous of knowing what was the state of the health of the prisoners during the time that you were there?—During the first winter of opening the prison it was extremely unhealthy.

To what cause do you attribute that extreme degree of ill health?—It was in a great measure owing to the dampness of the place and the building being new; and added to that, the constant rains we had.

Were the complaints which were then prevalent such as are usually excited by the dampness of the air?—The chief complaint was the typhus fever.

Do you conceive those causes that you have mentioned to have been sufficiently obviated, as that the like complaints had not prevailed during the remaining four years?—Certainly those complaints did not prevail during the remaining four years.

You think they are effectually obviated for the future?—I certainly think so; that is my opinion.

The walls of the prison were remarkably thick?—They were very thick walls.

You had constant changes of prisoners during the time you were there?—Yes, we had constant changes.

The Committee understand that the whole of the prisoners who were there at first were exchanged before you left the prison?—They were totally changed before I left the prison. The peace had taken place during the time.

Were there not some persons there at the time who called themselves Romanists?—There were, and they were the chief cause of the sickness in the prison.

Were these men enthusiasts?—They seemed to be so, but were men of most unaccountable habits. They were a depraved set: they used to gamble away their provisions and clothing.

Describe to the Committee more particularly those persons who passed under the

William Dyker,

the name of Romanists?—There were about 700 of them in number, and they were styled Romanists. They were men of most depraved and vicious habits, and were in the constant practice of selling or gambling away their provisions and clothing: they used to expend their provisons and all their clothing to such a degree as to leave themselves totally destitute of food, and entirely naked. They were frequently without any food at all, except perhaps a few raw potatoes.

Did they not lie upon each other to keep one another warm?—They lay in the upper part of the prison in fifties and hundreds, upon one another's laps: they were in what was called the gallery, and they used to lie in that way in cold winter nights. It was from the situation which they chose for their residence that they assumed the name of Romanists; from living in the capitol, or in other words, at the top of the prison.

Did they not frequently lie in their own filth, without ever cleaning themselves?—Yes, they were extremely filthy.

And their uncleanly habits would of themselves in a great degree have caused disease?—No doubt they would if they had mixed with other persons, but fortunately they resided in the upper part of the prison.

Did they not by gambling lose their provisions in advance?—They constantly gambled away their provisions in advance. I have known them frequently to gamble away their provisions for six weeks in advance; and when every implement of gambling was taken away from them, they would gamble at push pin.

The little sustenance they had, how did they procure it?—Why there was a merchant about the prison who sold potatoes by halfpennyworths and pennyworths at a time, and they would frequently beg halfpence and pence from the country people who came to market, and with the fruits of their begging they would buy these potatoes of the merchant, and this person sold them in a raw state.

Have you had occasion to attend them in a medical point of view during the time they were in that deplorable state; have they been reduced to that condition as to call in your aid and assistance?—Very frequently.

What was the kind of disease that they then laboured under?—In general, bowel complaints; a violent affection of the bowels, and pulmonic complaints, in the winter time. I have known them come by dozens when the snow was up to their knees, and when they had not a single rag upon them besides a bit of blanket about their shoulders. The present treasurer of the Navy saw enough of their distress, and it was in consequence of complaints that were made to him, representing the situation of these unfortunate men, that he visited the prison. It was afterwards visited by him again, together with General Stevens.

Did the other prisoners, who were well supplied with provisions, enjoy a good state of health; were they in general in a healthy state?—I think they were in general very healthy.

Was there a set of such desperate gamblers as you have now described in the prison, during the last part of your residence there?—No.

What you have now described took place only during the first four years?—After Mr. Martin and General Stevens visited the prisons, these Romanists were removed on board a prison ship.

What was the greatest number of prisoners of war that you had at any one time in Dartmoor prison?—Between 8 and 9,000, Americans and French.

State whether, in your opinion, you had a greater number of sick than is common to such a great body of persons brought together in any other situation?—I think not, after the first year.

Not after the first year?—No, I think not. In the winter of course they were more unhealthy than in general: in summer they were as healthy as they could possibly be any where.

They very frequently went out to work in certain numbers at a little distance from the prison?—Very frequently, from 3 to 500 together, and they worked upon the moor, in getting stones and making roads, and in building. They built two prisons while they were there.

Did they not also build a church while they were there?—Yes, they did.

Do you recollect whether those men were generally healthy that were so employed?—Those men were always healthy. All those men employed out of doors were always healthy.

Do you think Dartmoor prison, knowing it as a prison for prisoners of war, is a suitable place for confining convicts who might be so employed in exterior work, or

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in interior work, with regard to their health?—Why I think, from the elevated situation of the place, it cannot be unhealthy. The climate is certainly severe in the winter, but I cannot conceive it to be unhealthy independently of the wet. If they could be employed in-doors under cover during the wet season, it cannot by any means be called unhealthy. We frequently have had constant rains for six weeks, and not perhaps have a dry day during the six weeks.

Did you attend any of the regiments while you were there?—They had always their own surgeons; I did not attend them excepting at times, during the absence of the surgeon or the assistant surgeon.

Was the army tolerably healthy?—I understood very much so.

Do you speak also as to the winter time; were they healthy at that period?—Pulmonic complaints I think affected some of them; pulmonic complaints were very general in winter time. There was another cause of sickness during the first year: there was only one cook for the prison; and the consequence was that there were upwards of 1,000 men wet every day.

Was it a general opinion that Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt's farm succeeded there?—That I do not know.

Do you know any thing yourself of the details of farming?—I know very little of farming. There were some plantations of firs brought from the north of Scotland by the Transport Board, merely to try whether they would grow in that place, and they did not; they all died.

Did turnips succeed?—We had some very good turnips, and very good potatoes.

Have you any thing else to state?—Certainly every thing was unfavourable to the opening of the prison, in the first year, the building being new, and the season happening unfortunately to be very wet.

Have you about you any return of the mortality in the prison, during the period that you were there?—No; there were returns made of the mortality, daily, weekly, and monthly.

Does your recollection serve you so as to be enabled to say how many deaths there were in a hundred or a thousand men; or can you give us the per centage per annum during the time you was at Dartmoor?—During the five years I was there, there were 900 persons died, and out of that number nearly 600 died the first year.

Are you able to furnish the Committee with an account of how many died per cent. during the time you were there?—I cannot do it immediately now. There was about three and a quarter per cent. in the first year; and it is easy to ascertain the per centage as to the remaining period, as only 300 died during that period.

Were many wounded persons brought into Dartmoor prison?—Not a great many; they were sent to Mill prison, which was still nearer. We had a great many accidents from the men being employed in blasting rocks; we had a great many wounded in that duty, and from other similar causes.

Prior to the time when you were appointed to act as surgeon to Dartmoor prison, what general medical experience had you had?—I had been nearly 25 years in the navy, as a surgeon and assistant surgeon; my 30 years were completed at Dartmoor.

Mr. W. R. H. Brown.

Mr. *William Robert Henry Brown*, called in; and Examined.

IN your evidence before the Committee on a former occasion, you did not give any account of the alteration which has taken place in the cooking and dieting in the gaol of Newgate?—I don't recollect that I did.

Since you last gave evidence here, have you established a new system of dieting in the prison?—Yes; a considerable alteration in the dieting of the prison has been established under the direction of the Court of Aldermen.

What is the present plan?—The present plan is, that each person is allowed a pint of gruel every morning for breakfast.

In practice, does the plan adopted in the prison correspond with the plan intended to be adopted by the Court of Aldermen, as described already in the evidence?—I believe it does.

State in detail the nature of the diet plan now adopted?—The dieting system now adopted in the prison is this: the prisoners have a pint of gruel each for breakfast every morning; and every alternate day they have half a pound of meat boiled, from which the soup is made, to which is added two ox heads; and a quart of the soup is distributed in the intermediate alternate days.

Describe

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Describe the manner of cooking the allowance given to the prisoners, as well as the quantity distributed to each?—I have already said, that each prisoner is allowed a pint of gruel for his breakfast. The meat is boiled in four pound pieces, which serves a mess, consisting of eight prisoners, making thereby an allowance of six ounces to each person, there being a loss by boiling of about two ounces in the half pound.

What becomes of the broth?—The broth is made into soup for next day's consumption, with the addition of two ox heads boiled down with it, and vegetables are added to it.

What vegetables are added to it?—Leeks, oatmeal and barley, and whatever vegetables are in season. Each person is allowed a quart of that soup on the alternate days.

And what quantity of bread is allowed?—A pound of bread every day.

Are the two ox heads for the whole prison?—They are boiled down in the large copper for the whole prison, with the oatmeal, barley and vegetables; there are two coppers, and very good soup it is; it is very capital; it is uncommonly good, and the prisoners are all highly satisfied.

Are the prisoners satisfied with the change that has taken place?—Perfectly so; and since the change has taken place, another very wholesome regulation has been adopted by the Committee of Aldermen. It used to be the practice for the prisoners to cook their victuals in the different wards; that is wholly dispensed with; and whatever victuals are brought into the prison are brought in ready drest.

Do not the prisoners in general wish to have the privilege of cooking potatoes in the prison?—Some have wished it; and many that have friends out of doors bring them in potatoes before the dinner hour, and bring them in warm; and there is a person I believe, in the neighbourhood, who is in the habit of boiling and baking potatoes, and bringing them into the prison and selling them.

But do not the prisoners pay a greater price for them than if they purchased them in a raw state and cooked them themselves?—I don't know. I have seen some large-sized potatoes which have been sold at a halfpenny a piece, which is not a very extravagant charge, considering the trouble the person must have had in baking or boiling them.

But you have a steamer in the gaol, for the purpose of cooking potatoes for those prisoners who chuse to provide themselves with a net?—Certainly, if they chuse it; and I have given notice, and have directed, that if they chuse to have a net to boil potatoes in the steamer, they may do so. There is nothing to prevent them from boiling potatoes if they like, as the steamer is found for them. Sometimes it has occurred, that potatoes have been distributed to the people who are most distressed in the gaol, and these potatoes have been purchased with the money that charitable people have left at the prison. Instead of distributing the money, I have directed it to be laid out in potatoes, and have caused the steamer to be filled with potatoes, and have distributed them to the most distressed prisoners, so as to give them an additional quantity of food.

Has that practice been adopted in pursuance of the directions of the committee?—Yes.

Instead of distributing the money amongst them, it is laid out in vegetables, which are distributed according to the urgency of each particular case?—Yes.

Has any other new regulation been adopted in the prison?—We have excluded all visitors on Sundays; and that is a regulation which has been attended with the most beneficial results, for it keeps the prison in that orderly and proper state which was not known before. It used to be a place of great riot, confusion, and noise on Sundays.

Would there be any inconvenience in admitting the country friends of condemned prisoners to visit them of a Sunday?—We never refuse them admission in certain cases. They are always admitted by order of the Lord Mayor or Sheriffs; or if there is any extraordinary case in which it strikes me that the party should see their friends of a Sunday, the permission is never denied. There is not that general admission which used to be allowed.

The question put by the Committee does not apply to the general practice throughout the prison, but you are simply asked whether there would be any inconvenience in permitting the condemned prisoners to see their friends on a Sunday as on any other day?—None at all; and the practice is, that whenever any persons come they are never refused when they are proper people; such as a wife, or a hus-

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band, or a father, or a mother; but where the visitors are mere acquaintances, and merely just come for the sake of idle conversation, we cannot admit them.

The question put to you is, whether the same regulations under which visitors are permitted to see the prisoners in the week days should be applied to the Sundays?—Yes; but in the particular cases I have mentioned, we never refuse any people admission under those circumstances of a Sunday, because we consider that they are entitled more to protection and accommodation than any body else.

Were you present when the Rev. Mr. Cotton gave his evidence before the Committee?—No; I was not. I beg to say, by way of explanation, that when persons come to visit the prisoners in the week days, they are only admitted to the rails, excepting where the visitor is the father, or mother, or wife; and when they come, we do not admit them into the yards at all, but only admit them between the grating of the main gates and the yards; and then they must come to see them at a proper hour.

Then the Committee understand you to say, that though you have an option to break through that rule which the Court of Aldermen have imposed, viz. that no visitor should be permitted to enter the prison of a Sunday, yet you do not see that any inconvenience would arise to the admission of the prisoners friends into the condemned cells on that day, subject to the same regulations as take place on week days?—We act upon our own discretion, whether the parties ought to be admitted; and we never do refuse them in the cases I have mentioned.

There is a discretion given you upon the subject?—Yes.

And no inconvenience results from it?—None at all.

Since you were here last, you have discontinued the use of irons in the untried division of the prison?—Yes; and that regulation took place in this way: inasmuch as the Gaol Committee of Aldermen had made a regulation to the exclusion of all the visitors in the yards or walls of the prison, which had heretofore been the case, I then suggested, at the next meeting, that if they thought it right, I would discontinue the use of irons, which I thought I might safely do in consequence of the order for the exclusion of strangers from the prison. The Committee of Aldermen sanctioned the proposition, and immediately after last session it was carried into effect, and no man now is put into irons before trial; the prisoners are totally without irons until after conviction.

Have you discovered any inconvenience arising from this regulation?—None upon earth. It appears to me that the prisoners are all well satisfied; and they are very grateful and thankful; and their conduct is very quiet and orderly.

And you feel yourself as confident in the security of the gaol, without irons, as before?—Yes, I do; for under the present regulation, which excludes persons from going into the yards or wards, there is no possibility of effecting their escape. Under the old system, women might come in with disguises, and assist in effecting the escape of the prisoners; but under the present circumstances, no such persons can gain admittance; and it was for that reason that I suggested the alteration with respect to the irons.

The prisoners in general are of opinion that the restriction upon the visits of their friends is more than compensated to them by being suffered to remain, before their trial, without irons?—It appears so; and they are very thankful: and inasmuch as they know that the visits of their friends must be given up, they are quite satisfied. There are cases where we admit decent and respectable people into the wards or yards to see prisoners, but they are not suffered to stay more than half an hour at a time, and they are properly watched.

At present then you have a discretionary power with regard to the use of irons?—Yes.

There is no general order directing you not to put them upon the untried prisoners?—There is not a general order given; but the provision was given upon the statement that I made to the Gaol Committee of Aldermen. The fact is, I give security to the sheriffs for the safe custody of the prisoners; and I have a discretion given to me in the use of irons; and when I see any danger, I have a right to put on the irons. For instance, if I see three or four plotting their escape, I immediately put on the irons for my own security; and it is very fit that I should have such a discretion.

It is understood in the prison that this is a personal indulgence which you have granted to the prisoners?—They consider it an indulgence, and they are all grateful for it, and have expressed themselves as such, and they have behaved extremely well.

Have you had occasion to put irons upon any of the untried prisoners since that regulation has been adopted, on account of bad behaviour?—No.

And

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And you consider your prison, under its present regulations, just as safe as when the prisoners had irons on?—I certainly do, in consequence of the restriction upon persons going into the yards; by which all mischief is precluded. There used to be 40 or 50 women in the yards, and the greatest riot and confusion used sometimes to prevail in consequence of the unrestricted admission of strangers. The Court of Aldermen have ordered me to provide a set of body-irons, such as I mentioned in my last evidence. I have obtained one from the country, and an order has been given for making them; and in case any of the prisoners behave ill, we shall put them into these irons, which will render them perfectly secure.

Have you not made some alteration with respect to the boys?—Not to my recollection.

Have you not moved them out of the rooms where they were, and placed them in their own apartments again?—Yes, but that was in consequence of a mere temporary occasion, which rendered it necessary. A very extensive plan was formed after the last session, which rendered it necessary to make this arrangement. There was a number of desperate characters, who were convicts for life, and their plan was formed to make a general attack in the chapel, and rush upon us (the turnkeys), and then attempt to effect their escape; and the plan would probably have succeeded, but for some timely regulations that were adopted. There were about 20 or 30 of these conspirators; and from information I had received and evidence that I had collected together, I found that there was a deep-laid plan ready to be carried into execution. I then thought it high time to interpose and prevent it, and I was obliged to make considerable alterations in the prison, but they were only of a temporary nature. I was obliged to remove the boys out of their apartments and put them all in the yard amongst the most decent men for forgery, because I thought that they were not of a description like the rest, and that they would not join them in the plan: I thought that arrangement necessary under the circumstances of the case. That was the occasion of the removal of the boys. I immediately wrote to the Lord Mayor, and to Mr. Capper, the Under Secretary of State, and communicated the facts of the case to them, and on the following day I got an order for the removal of 50 of the convicts to Portsmouth, and in the course of a day or two they were all removed; and when we get another removal, I am in hopes we shall be able to put the boys in another situation. That was a mere temporary arrangement which it was impossible for me to foresee. A speedy removal of transports from the prison will be a most desirable thing; and I am informed, and I believe it to be the truth, because I received the information from the person who conveyed the convicts, that immediately after the assizes in the county of Surrey the convicts are removed to the hulks. Now it is a thing very well worthy the consideration of the Committee, as far as the health and good order of Newgate is concerned, that the prisoners sentenced to transportation should be immediately removed to the hulks, after every session. That, I am told, is actually the case in the county of Surrey: the convicts are immediately removed after the assizes to the hulks; every prisoner sentenced for seven and fourteen years transportation is always removed forthwith to the hulks, whilst we have not less than 100 transports in the convict side, besides 40 or 50 that we are obliged to place in the untried prison.

You have stated that the prisoners are quite contented with the present dieting system in the prison; were they not dissatisfied at first?—Yes, they were; they were grumbling a little at first, because they thought they had a right to have victuals in the rooms and cook for themselves, but all that subsided in a few days.

Did they not exhibit a riotous disposition on the first exhibition of this new plan?

There were at first some little complaints, but they all subsided immediately, when they found that there was no reason to complain of the food that was given to them.

Did they not break the earthenware vessels in which they got their soup?—No, they did not. When I distributed the earthenware vessels through the prison, there was a strong injunction to all the prisoners to take care of them; but in this riot that I have stated, amongst the prisoners who planned the attack in the chapel, there were 14 or 15 of the vessels broken; and if those men had staid a week longer, they would have broken them all, as well as all the windows in the prison.

Were there any individuals amongst them more riotous than the others?—Yes, there were. There could not be two worse fellows than Kelly and Spicer. I was obliged to put them both in irons two days before they went, as an example to the rest, Kelly particularly, Spicer was not near so bad; Spicer himself, the second day the

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the soup was given out, chuck'd the soup and the pipkin into the yard, and made a great number of offensive observations.

In the first instance the soup was somewhat sour?—The first day it was, in consequence of something being wrong in the utensils in which it was boiled; they were not sufficiently seasoned, but nothing of that sort has happened again; it was put into too large bodies, and got into a state of fermentation before it became cool, but that was all obviated in 48 hours afterwards.

How is the bread now?—Very good; the bread was very good this morning. I hear no complaints throughout the prison of the bread at all.

Is it your opinion that if the convicts were removed as soon as possible after the sessions, it would enable you to make a material and beneficial classification of the individuals within the prison?—Undoubtedly it would. That is one of the chief evils of Newgate, owing to the great number of transports who are kept in there.

Do you think that if the women were permanently removed out of the prison altogether, it would afford you any additional relief?—It would give us a vast deal more room. But when we have 150 or 200 transports occupying a whole wing of the building, it is impossible to class the other prisoners. If they were removed we should have three yards for the disposal of the untried prisoners, and then we could class them better. We have only 70 women in the prison now.

Even if the convicts were removed, would there not be a considerable deficiency of yards?—I should think not, according to the manner in which the prison is now conducted, for we should have plenty of yard room if the convicts were removed. All the north side of the prison is entirely occupied by transports; there are three yards there.

Has a clerk been appointed to the chapel?—Yes, there has been one appointed these two months.

Are the persons ordered for execution for forgery, sensible of the guilt of the crime they have committed, and do they generally acquiesce in the justice of the punishment?—They generally acknowledge their guilt as to the possession of the notes, and the circulation of them; but the observation they have made to me is, that they have never considered the possession of forged notes and the uttering of them to be a capital offence; particularly the two unfortunate persons who were executed this morning; they declared to me, that they did not understand theirs to be an offence punishable with death.

Nor did they appear to consider that punishment as justly inflicted upon them?—Certainly not; they generally complain to me of the hardship they labour under, in being selected out for that sort of punishment, when other persons who have committed the very same offence, have been brought to the bar in the very same sessions, and suffered to plead guilty. The two persons who were executed this morning, Ward and Skelton, complained that there were several other persons charged with the same offence, who were tried at the same assizes and allowed to plead guilty. They said that they were willing also to plead guilty, but that the Bank would not let them.

Have you not heard from persons in that situation declarations such as these: that they were not guilty of felony, or treason, or murder; and that it was hard upon them to be hanged?—They have said so; they consider themselves as martyred and murdered.

But in cases in which other capital sentences have been carried into execution you have not found the culprits remonstrate in the same manner against the justice of their sentence?—No, certainly not. The usual practice at the sessions, is to give in to the gaoler a list of the persons charged with this offence who are to be allowed to plead guilty. At the last sessions Mr. Westwood, the solicitor for the Bank, handed me a list of persons (it being arranged I suppose with the clerk of the peace) to be brought up to plead; and there were eight or nine persons brought up to plead guilty. That must be all settled by previous arrangement with the Bank solicitor. All the persons that were brought up were allowed to plead guilty, except the two persons, Ward and Skelton, who were executed this morning; they were the persons only who were tried.

But they were ready to plead guilty to the same charge?—Yes.

The other prisoners pleaded guilty as to having the notes in their possession?—Yes. It was previously arranged at the time that they were to plead guilty, but Ward and Skelton were not allowed; they requested to do so, but they were not permitted. I suppose the Bank solicitor would not let them.

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Can you inform the Committee, whether the eight or nine persons you have spoken of, were persons who had committed the offence before, or were they persons who had been known to have uttered forged notes for some time before?—I don't know as to that. They are generally tried upon indictments of three counts; forging, uttering, and having in possession.

Mr. *Nicholas Bull*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. Nicholas Bull.

YOU are adjutant of the Middlesex militia?—Yes.

How long were you at Dartmoor?—Two months.

What was the state of health of your soldiers while there?—The state of the health of the soldiers during the time I was there, was as good as could be expected; but we had more sickness in general than our fair proportion, on account of the long marches, and the bad weather setting in.

Did not the number of your sick decrease after you got there?—Yes.

In what season did you march there?—We marched in September, and left on the 10th of December.

You marched by forced marches?—Yes, we marched from Chatham across the country.

Had you more sick there than when you left Chatham?—Rather more.

How much more do you think?—I cannot exactly call to memory. The returns will inform the Committee upon that subject.

Are you acquainted with the strength of the prison at Dartmoor?—Yes.

Do you think it a fit place of security for convicts?—I should think it is; speaking from my knowledge of the prison and its situation, it certainly is a place of security, for if a man were to make his escape out of the prison he could not get off the moor.

Why not get off the moor?—Because it is so swampy, and he could not get off unless he took to the main roads.

During the time you were there, did any of the French prisoners escape from the prison?—Not any at all at the time I was there. The prison is so secure that it would be almost impossible for any person to escape. The prison is circular, and round the walls there is wire work, to which bells are attached; and if any person were to attempt to escape, the bells would immediately ring and give the alarm. Beside which, there is a platform round the prison upon which centinels are placed to guard.

Martis, 5° die Maii 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

Dr. *George Maggrath*, called in; and Examined.

Dr. G. Maggrath.

YOU are a surgeon at Dartmoor Prison?—Yes; I am the medical superintendent to the depôt for prisoners of war, at Dartmoor.

At what time did you take upon yourself that situation?—In September 1814.

How long did you remain there?—Until the closing of the depôt on 28th February 1816.

Describe to the Committee the number of prisoners under your care?—I cannot exactly state the number when I first joined the depôt, but they increased to about 6,000 prisoners.

What is your opinion as to the situation of Dartmoor, with regard to the health of the prisoners?—I should not consider the situation of Dartmoor insalubrious, by any means.

Were your prisoners, in point of sickness, greater than you have found them in any other situation, according to the number of prisoners in confinement?—Not greater than at Plymouth depôt, in proportion to the number confined; although when I joined the depôt an epidemic disease, an inflammation in the lungs, existed, and continued to increase to a considerable extent; but, I think, arising more from moral causes than any physical impression from the climate: it existed among the American prisoners.

Dr. G. Maggrath.

Describe the causes?—They are exceedingly prone to dissipation, and undue indulgence in spirituous potations; which tended very materially, together with other irregular habits, to increase the predisposition to inflammatory infections.

Did you find any difficulty in suppressing that disease to which you have alluded? —It did endure for a considerable time, being kept up by the same causes, and occasionally aggravated by atmospheric impressions.

Were the American prisoners employed in any external labour?—Very few.

You were not at the depôt during the time the French prisoners were there?—I occasionally was sent there officially by the Transport Board, on any increase of sickness, to report upon it, and to give my opinion.

Were the French constantly employed in external works?—Yes; a great number were employed in the erection of some new prisons, as well as making roads, and other works carried on; and they certainly did enjoy a most extraordinarily good state of health.

You allude to the prisoners who were thus employed?—I do. To that I might add, as to the establishment, that those who were employed about the establishment, and not contained in the depôt, were also very healthy.

Were your returns to the Transport Board in general, such as spoke in favour of the situation of the prisoners?—I had occasionally to remark on the severity of some portion of the winters, which operated upon the constitution not assimilated to the climate; for instance, upon Frenchmen coming from France, being accustomed to a much milder climate.

In your opinion then, speaking rather as to the height of the spot, it being more than 1,200 feet above the level of the sea, do you think it a healthy place?—It is not an unhealthy spot.

Had you any difficulty in drying the clothes of the prisoners?—The establishment was furnished with a drying-house, which answered all the ends required. The hospital was the only part of the establishment which required drying; but I never found any difficulty in procuring sheets and shirts, and other linen, for the comfort of the prisoners.

That place has lately been erected?—Previous to my going there, it was erected I found the house there when I went there.

Are there the same kind of drying-houses in the Naval Hospitals of Plymouth?—Yes.

Suppose the clothes were sent from Dartmoor, as the Committee have been informed they were, would they have been sent to the hospital for the purpose of being dried?—Certainly. The clothes were all washed at the depôt, and dried in the drying-house.

Have you been to Dartmoor since the prisoners left it?—Yes; very shortly after I quitted it: I cannot therefore speak as to its present condition.

In your opinion, supposing the prison to be occupied by prisoners now, would it not be better fitted to send prisoners to hereafter; would it not be better for their health by being now occupied?—Certainly. It must be a ruin, unless strict attention is paid to it; if occupied, of course it would not be suffered to go into decay.

You think that the prison would be extremely injured, if it be suffered to remain unoccupied?—I do think so. The appearance of Dartmoor is very sombre, and that is considerably against it; but I do not think it an unhealthy climate. On the subject of pectoral affections, already adverted to, I do not find that they are aggravated by the climate.

Is the land around Dartmoor much improved of late?—Since I first knew it, the land immediately adjacent to the depôt has been much improved in point of particular vegetables. Almost all the bulbous roots have succeeded well there, such as potatoes, and other roots of that kind. Captain Shortland, the agent, has very luxuriant crops.

Have you any thing more to state to the Committee?—The Committee will recollect that I come totally unprepared; I have not a note or observation previously made for the occasion. During the time of my being at Dartmoor, I kept a regular journal, which I transmitted, in my official capacity, to the Transport Board. I have endeavoured to reclaim it, but I have not been successful. The temperature of the place is very low.

What are the prevailing diseases of the spot?—During my residence there, I particularly remarked the diseases of pneumonia, the meazles, and the small-pox, imported to the depôt by the market people holding intercourse with the prisoners. The

Dr. G. Maggrath.

The only report which I have been able to procure at the Transport Board yesterday, I have in my pocket; and it is a singular circumstance that that should be on the subject of pulmonary affections. I think that humidity did not aggravate this disease, but cold frosty weather; I think that is more pernicious than humidity. I do not consider the climate as unhealthy; but unless a proper police be preserved in the depôt, and if dissipation and licentiousness be permitted, disease must be the consequence.

Sir *William Curtis,* Bart. a Member of the Committee; Examined.

Sir William Curtis.

WHO are the visiting magistrates in the prison of Newgate?—There was a Committee of Aldermen appointed, two years and a half ago, for the purpose of superintending the gaol. That committee was formed of the following persons: Sir William Curtis, Sir John Perring, Sir James Shaw, Joshua Jonathan Smith, esq. Samuel Birch, esq. Matthew Wood, esq. John Atkyns, esq. and Samuel Goodbehere, esq.

By whom were they appointed?—By the court of magistracy, for the purpose of inspecting and attending to all business relating to the gaol of Newgate.

How often has that committee visited the gaol?—Frequently once a week, but generally once a fortnight.

Was there any stated time by which those visits were regulated?—There was no stated time, but as occasion required.

Has any regular return been made of their proceedings when they did visit the gaol?—Returns were made to the Court of Aldermen whenever any thing of moment required such a return being made.

Is there any book kept at Newgate in which this committee enter records of their proceedings?—Prior to the formation of the committee in June 1816, the sitting magistrate of the week visited Newgate, and there was a book kept for him to insert his name in it, with any remarks he might choose to make; and I believe that was regularly done. Since this committee has been formed, the sitting magistrate has not thought it his duty to attend, this committtee being formed for the purpose of regulating and superintending the gaol. No book has been kept in Newgate for the purpose of enabling the magistrates to make their remarks, but these remarks have been made in a book in the town clerk's office of any occurrence worthy of notice.

Is the Committee to understand that the gaol committee appointed in 1816 is the same as that which is now acting?—Yes, exactly, and formed of the same individuals.

Is the Committee to understand that the Court of Quarter Sessions has had no return made to it by these visiting magistrates?—The Court of Quarter Sessions is part of the Court of Aldermen, and have never had any returns made to them.

Does the worthy alderman mean to inform the Committee, that not only regulations affecting the discipline of the gaol are entered in the book alluded to, but also the remarks of the visiting magistrates in general?—There can be no regulations entered. What is done in the book, whether the remarks of the visiting magistrates are inserted or not, I do not know, but it may be so. For the information of the Committee I will state, that the sheriffs have a duty, which I believe is always performed, of returning an account of the state of Newgate, at every Court of Aldermen, with respect to its numbers and the health of its inhabitants; and whether any thing had occurred in their visitation requiring the interference of magistrates, that it might be immediately done.

Have the sheriffs any power to make alterations or improvements in the gaol, without communication with the committee of visiting magistrates?—The power of the sheriffs is not defined; they have an authority, and do exercise it. With respect to the internal regulations of the gaol, they have a concurrent jurisdiction with the committee.

Veneris, 8° *die Maii*, 1818.

Mr. Alderman Wood, in the Chair.

THE Chairman stated, that the Corporation of London had received an estimate from their surveyor, with respect to the Borough Compter, for a boundary-wall, and a considerable increase of yard-room to be added, together with a house adjoining, to be used for the debtors, at the amount of £. 5,500, and a rental of £. 70 a year; to which the Corporation had agreed, and had ordered the work to be done forthwith; that by this alteration two rooms for night-charges are to be built, one large room for a day-room for the debtors, also a room over for an infirmary, and also a separate room for vagrants, by which means it will afford a complete classification for as great a number of prisoners as have been confined there within the last two years, and that, in his opinion, this, with the additional house now standing for the use of the keeper, will give the classification before referred to:—and delivered in a plan of the proposed alterations.

Dr. *William Babington*, called in; and Examined.

Dr. W. Babington.

YOU were kind enough, yesterday, to visit Newgate, and passed two hours there?—Yes.

Will you be good enough to state to the Committee your opinion as to the general arrangements with regard to the health of the prisoners; and where you approve or disapprove?—The Committee will please to understand, that this was the only opportunity I had of turning my attention to this subject; yet I think I may say, that considering the dimensions of the prison, and the number of persons confined in it, they appeared to me upon the whole to be very healthy, and very well accommodated.

Will you be good enough to state your opinion as to their being put in day-rooms and night-rooms, with regard to their health?—The general arrangement, as stated to me, was, that the prisoners should occupy certain rooms in the day-time, and certain other rooms as dormitories, or places for sleeping in. I concluded of course that the numbers under confinement, were numbers of necessity; and taking the question in that point of view, I would beg to repeat, that the establishment did seem to me, upon the whole, to be very well conducted, so far as respected its general cleanliness, and the accommodation and health of the prisoners.

Is the circumstance of their being in a warm room in the day, and going at night into a room that is considerably colder, where a number sleep, in any degree injurious to health?—Understanding that to be the general arrangement of the prison, as I have already said, the answer I am disposed to give, as the most satisfactory to myself is, that the propriety of this arrangement would depend much upon the season of the year, and other circumstances. If I were asked, whether the prisoners would be likely to be injured under the present plan, from this time to September or October, I should say, the arrangement was not exceptionable; better, certainly, than their living and sleeping in one room; but, taking into consideration the changeable weather of the autumn, and the severity of the winter season, I entertain great doubts on the subject. When I consider the state of the atmosphere at that period of year, the imperfect ventilation of the dormitories, the quantity of moisture that must condense during the night, and the difficulty of giving dryness to those materials in the chambers that necessarily imbibe it; all these circumstances collectively, induce me to doubt, whether the prisoners would not then be better secured from illness, and more comfortable, if they were allowed to sleep in their day-room; I should therefore say, that, supposing the numbers to average from 35 to 40 in each room, and that the question were, which would be most for their health and comfort, that they should inhabit one of those rooms only, eating and sleeping there, or as they now do, employing the dormitories, with an equal opportunity of being in the open air in the day-time, the choice of arrangement would depend very much, in my judgment, upon the season of the year, as I have before stated.

If that number of individuals, namely, from 35 to 40, were divided into two parties, and there was only consequently one half to be contained in each chamber, and they

Dr. W. Babington.

they were to eat, live, and sleep there, would you consider that more conducive to health than the present mode?—I think that would rest on this point; whether you gave accommodation in the dormitory, similar to that in the other chamber, that is to say, whether you would have the chimney opened, and allow a fire or not; for I am of opinion, that except, with respect to certain persons, who, from their manner of life and strength of constitution, may have acquired an unusual degree of hardihood there must always be some risk attending the passing from warm rooms in the winter season, and sleeping in such dormitories as the prisoners now occupy, there being no fire, and the chimnies nearly closed up.

Supposing in the summer they were to remain as they now are, to sleep in a separate room, and in the winter they were divided into rooms, making them both day-rooms and sleeping-rooms, would that be more conducive to the health of the prisoners?—If sufficient pains were taken to clean the rooms, as I presume would be the case, that being an object of great importance, I should think it would be in general a better arrangement that they should live in one room and sleep in the other, than that each room should be employed for living and for sleeping.

Supposing they were to live in one room, as they now do, and sleep in smaller rooms, to the number of two, three, or four in a room, how would that operate?—The area of the rooms being in the same proportion to the number of persons occupying them, it does not occur to me that there would be any particular advantage in the subdivison, but rather the contrary.

Do you consider that it is essential to the preservation of health, that the rooms in which prisoners sleep, whether they sleep together in moderate numbers, according to the size of the room, or singly, should be kept warm, and thoroughly ventilated in the winter season?—Yes; I am decidedly of opinion that a certain degree of warmth, in reference to many of these people, and at the same time as complete a degree of ventilation as can be carried into effect, must necessarily be very essential to the preservation of their health.

Are you aware of the great sickness that has existed in Newgate during the last year?—Yes, I am aware of it, so far as I have had a short conversation on that subject with Mr. Box, the surgeon of Newgate. In that conversation I learned that there had been, in the course of this last year, an unusual number of sick, and was surprised at the proportion of deaths stated by that gentleman; that is to say, the number of deaths compared with those that were ill.

The number of deaths being many or few?—Few.

It appears that in seven months no less than 511 persons passed through the hospital out of 1400 prisoners, between the month of May 1817 and the month of January 1818; do you think the circumstances upon which you have been asked an opinion, namely the change that took place in the disposition of the prisoners in these bed-rooms, without fires and without ventilation, has contributed to cause that sickness?—Taking it for granted that that number is greater than the average, I should think it not improbable that the circumstances adverted to may have contributed to that increase of numbers.

Was not the season unhealthy out of doors?—As far as I know, only with respect to the prevalence of fever: but the Committee will please to remark the circumstances under which these people sleep; they have a mat and but two rugs; the floor upon which they lie is very frequently washed; the dimensions of the rooms are already known to the Committee; there is little or no ventilation permitted; there is no fire; it is scarcely to be supposed therefore that any other persons than those I have alluded to, as being of particular hardihood and strong constitutions, can pass from a warm room into one of such a description, filled occasionally with fog and cold air, be exposed for so many hours to an atmosphere vitiated by respiration, and sleep on that kind of matting that must have been very imperfectly dried in the course of the day, with impunity. Under all these circumstances, I say, it is hardly to be supposed, but that, independently of other diseases, rheumatic affections, and complaints of the chest, must be the result.

Should you not think that, supposing any epidemic complaint is introduced into the prison, persons that are so situated would be much pre-disposed to catch the infection?—I should say, undoubtedly, believing, as I do, that in whatever way human health is lessened, we are so far pre-disposed to be influenced by any kind of contagion; and that of typhus fever more especially; and I would add, that I had a view to that circumstance in the opinion which I have just given.

Dr. W. Babington.

Your attention has hitherto been pointed more particularly to the damp and unventilated state of the dormitories, and upon that part of the subject your answers have been full and explicit; the Committee wish you now to divest your mind altogether of any reference to those points, and acquaint the Committee, whether, in your opinion, persons of a tender constitution, or indeed persons whose constitutions are not peculiarly robust, would not be pre-disposed to disease, when confined in a place at night, allowing only a foot and a half to each individual?—I should think so, undoubtedly. I would beg to observe, that in going round the prison, and noticing the general cleanliness and accommodation of the place, the health and appearance of the prisoners being better certainly than I expected to find them, and the rooms remarkable for the purity of their air, there were two chambers that appeared to be exceptions; whether this depended upon accidental circumstances, or not, I had no means of ascertaining; but I could not help remarking of what moment it must be to the cleanliness and health of the prison, if it were possible that the privies could be furnished with pans, and a proper supply of water.

Did you visit the infirmary?—Yes.

Will you state to the Committee your opinion upon the infirmary, and upon the treatment of the persons there, so far as you had an opportunity of observing?—I cannot hesitate to say, that every thing there appeared to be well regulated; the chambers were very clean, the patients few; if my recollection be correct, there was only one woman in bed.

Is it your opinion that the mat on which the people sleep is a species of bedding that is compatible with health?—This being to me a new material, I cannot speak decidedly; it was a question with me when I examined it, whether mattresses of horse-hair, or straw, or some other material capable of being more easily dried, and which, being of less dense structure, would not be so likely to communicate the impression of cold to the body, would not be preferable.

Do you think, that with proper attention to cleanliness, vermin would be more likely to be generated by the bedding, such as you have described, than by the present mode?—I think it possible it might be so; but I really cannot speak positively.

You are aware that at present every individual has the liberty of bringing a bed into the prison, if he has one so to bring; and do you not think that if a bed, such as you have described, was furnished, it would be much less likely to introduce vermin into the prison than the liberty which is now enjoyed?—Not only so, but it is my opinion, that so long as the prisoners have the permission of bringing in their bedding to the prison, there must ever be danger of the conveyance of contagion; and that this danger will be in proportion to the prevalence of contagion out of doors.

APPENDIX.

PAPERS and ACCOUNTS.

N° 1.—Relating to Newgate,—pp. 207—217

N° 2.—Relating to Giltspur-street and Borough Compter,—217—220

N° 3.—Relating to Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals - - - - 221—238

N° 4. } N° 5. } Dartmoor Prison, with an Engraving - - - - - pp. 236—238

N° 6.—County of Aberdeen Bridewell, with Two Engravings; *viz.* Plan and Elevation - - - - - - 239

APPENDIX, N° 1.—NEWGATE.

N° 1. NEWGATE.

(1.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners committed to Newgate, distinguished as Original Commitments, and Removals from the various Prisons, preparatory to the several Sessions, in the year 1817.

1817.		Original.	Removals.
January.—	London	51.	2.
	Middlesex	255.	41.
February.—	London	33.	2.
	Middlesex	153.	25.
April.—	London	41.	1.
	Middlesex	278.	31.
May.—	London	20.	2.
	Middlesex	169.	34.

1817.		Original.	Removals.
July.—	London	43.	0.
	Middlesex	244.	14.
September.—	London	72.	4.
	Middlesex	276.	23.
October.—	London	43.	3.
	Middlesex	166.	13.
December.—	London	37.	4.
	Middlesex	188.	8.

(2.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in Custody under Sentence of Transportation, and Fines for Felony, &c. at the beginning and ending of each Session, in the years 1814, 1815, 1816, and 1817.

1814.		Fines.	Transports.
January.—	London	43.	13.
	Middlesex	29.	42.
February.—	London	39.	40.
	Middlesex	28.	91.
April.—	London	25.	22.
	Middlesex	18.	76.
May.—	London	33.	19.
	Middlesex	15.	77.
July.—	London	33.	25.
	Middlesex	15.	94.
September.—	London	28.	27.
	Middlesex	12.	73.
October.—	London	34.	28.
	Middlesex	6.	99.
November.—	London	37.	28.
	Middlesex	11.	87.

1815.		Fines.	Transports.
January.—	London	38.	38.
	Middlesex	9.	124.
February.—	London	47.	38.
	Middlesex	11.	113.
April.—	London	45.	32.
	Middlesex	9.	101.
May.—	London	48.	21.
	Middlesex	9.	82.
June.—	London	43.	25.
	Middlesex	10.	118.
September.—	London	36.	17.
	Middlesex	9.	51.
October.—	London	48.	29.
	Middlesex	15.	86.
December.—	London	48.	41.
	Middlesex	20.	106.

(continued.)

No 1.
NEWGATE.

1816.		Fines.	Transports.	1817.		Fines.	Transports.
January.—	London	48.	64.	January.—	London	14.	22.
	Middlesex	23.	192.		Middlesex	44.	103.
February.—	London	39.	42.	February.—	London	15.	30.
	Middlesex	28.	161.		Middlesex	38.	147.
April.—	London	42.	28.	April.—	London	15.	27.
	Middlesex	35.	122.		Middlesex	31.	141.
May.—	London	40.	39.	May.—	London	16.	18.
	Middlesex	42.	156.		Middlesex	33.	170.
July.—	London	32.	39.	July.—	London	13.	21.
	Middlesex	46.	162.		Middlesex	38.	134.
September.—	London	25.	28.	September.—	London	7.	10.
	Middlesex	40.	96.		Middlesex	44.	112.
October.—	London	20.	32.	October.—	London	5.	24.
	Middlesex	33.	131.		Middlesex	44.	96.
December.—	London	20.	32.	December.—	London	4.	20.
	Middlesex	41.	120.		Middlesex	48.	114.

W. R. H. Brown, Keeper.

(3.)—AN ACCOUNT of the Expense of the several Gaols of the City of London, for the last Eight Years.

NEWGATE.	Average of 5 Years, to Michaelmas 1814.			Amount of 1 Year, to Michaelmas 1815.			Expenditure of the Year 1816.			Expenditure of the Year 1817.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Salary to Keeper	450	—	—	450	—	—	975	—	—	971	—	—
Dº - to Ordinary	210	—	—	300	—	—	300	—	—	300	—	—
For Bread for Prisoners	2,706	11	10	2,377	4	—	1,265	9	4	2,866	5	4¼
To Rice, Potatoes, &c.	525	16	3	504	16	7½	—			—		
For Meat	-	-	-	946	—	1	977	2	—	783	4	3
For Coals	-	-	-	596	16	2	427	13	8	452	—	—
To Surgeon, and providing Medicines	387	11	9	409	2	8	362	11	1	300	—	—
Necessaries to Sick Prisoners	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	9	7½	199	11	11¼
Wages to Servants, and necessary Disbursements	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,332	17	10	2,150	—	—
Bedding and clothing for Transports	289	8	3	544	7	8	290	18	—	154	3	4
Subsisting and clothing Insane Persons, and Sundries	630	12	—	737	17	1	372	12	4	356	13	5
Taxes and Water Rents	168	15	6	189	11	3	188	11	10	164	9	2
Necessary Repairs, and lime-whiting Gaol	2,589	19	3	3,035	9	1	1,601	6	9½	1,773	4	—
Prayer-books and Homilies	-	-	-	219	5	—	—			—		
TOTAL of NEWGATE	7,958	14	10	10,310	9	7½	9,192	12	6	10,470	11	6
TOTAL of GILTSPUR-STREET COMPTER and HOUSE OF CORRECTION	1,703	12	10	1,726	10	3¾	3,531	4	5½	3,809	16	1
TOTAL of POULTRY COMPTER	1,293	16	7¾	1,300	10	8	—			—		
TOTAL of NEW PRISON FOR DEBTORS	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,940	17	—½	5,155	8	9
TOTAL of SESSIONS HOUSE	1,044	19	—	807	18	4	858	14	2	1,062	16	11
£.	12,001	3	3¾	14,145	8	11¼	18,523	8	2	20,498	13	3

N° 1.
NEWGATE.

(4.)—STATE of His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate, 2d March 1818.

		Males.	Females.	
Under Sentence of Death		15	1	
Respites		22	7	
Judgment Respites		12	—	
Transports:				
Life	46		16	
14 Years	21	162	10	61
7 Years	95		35	
Misdemeanors		43		21
Total under Sentence		254		90
For Trial		40		9
		294		99

Total Males	294	
Females	99	
		393

Note.—Only 37 of the above are London prisoners, and nearly a fourth of the whole are under 21 years of age.

(5.)—An ACCOUNT of the greatest number of Male Prisoners at any one period in Custody on the Untried Side, between the 13th May 1817 and the 27th February 1818.

Middle Yard:		
Ground-floor	22	
Two sleeping wards, one-pair	70	
Two ditto, two-pair	74	
		166
Third Yard:		
Ground-floor	24	
One-pair, three sleeping wards	57	
Two-pair, three sleeping wards	51	
		132
Total		298

The two wards on the ground-floor were used as day-rooms, and also sleeping rooms. The week before the Sessions about 16 were removed to the Chapel yard, for want of room.

(6.)—An ACCOUNT of Clothing distributed to the Prisoners in Newgate, for the Half Year between July 1817 and February 1818.

		Now in Store:	
Shirts	94.	Shirts	44.
Shoes	163 pair.	Shoes	110 pair.
Stockings	98 pair.	Stockings	148 pair.
Jackets	21.	Jackets	81.
Drawers	26.	Drawers	70.

(7.)—An ACCOUNT of Expenses paid for the removal of Transports to the Hulks at Sheerness and Portsmouth.

	£.	s.	d.
For conveying 25 Transports in a machine drawn by six horses, to the King's Ferry, Isle of Sheppy, and back to London, with the guards and irons; also for waggon-hire from thence to Sheerness, and a post chaise throughout, and back to London	37	9	—
For expenses paid to five escorts of cavalry, stationed at different places on the road	3	—	—
For expenses paid at the hulks, toll at the ferry, &c.	1	9	6
For provisions, &c. for Convicts	3	2	6
For expenses paid for the time and trouble of three guards to attend the Convicts, out two days and two nights, and the keeper's expenses there and back	7	15	6
£.	52	16	6

(continued)

No 1.
NEWGATE.

	£.	s.	d.
For conveying 25 Transports in a machine drawn by six horses, to Portsmouth, and back to London, with the guards and irons - - - - - -	64	10	—
For expenses paid to five escorts of cavalry, stationed at different places on the road - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3	—	—
For provisions for the Convicts - - - - - - - - - -	2	18	—
For expenses paid for the time and trouble of three guards to attend the Convicts, out two days and two nights, and the keeper's expenses there and back - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	7	15	6
£.	78	3	6

When the season will permit, the conveyance to Sheerness is by water, which reduces the expenses full *one-third*.

W. R. H. Brown, Keeper.

2d March 1818.

(8.)—Copy.—GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT, &c. Session 1816.

London, 1st November 1816.

THE Grand Jury having visited the prison of Newgate, and inspected the several yards and wards, were much gratified with the general aspect of its neatness and cleanliness; and having made particular inquiry respecting the recent escape of some prisoners, are of opinion that no blame attaches to Mr. Newman, the keeper, on that account, but consider such escape very materially assisted by the inefficient state of the roof.

William Whitworth, foreman, James Crook, Edmund Briggs, Richard Vandome, Thomas Mitchell, John Stockdale, Headly Ackland, John Simpson, John Jordan, William Murrell, Joyce Gould, William Brooks, Joseph Newcombe, Richard Edwards, Richard Yates, William Davies, John Wilt, Thomas Beckwith.

(9.)—Copy.—GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT, February Session 1817.

WE, The Grand Jury for the city of London, assembled at the adjourned Sessions, at the Sessions House, Old Bailey, this 22d day of February 1817, upon their oath;—

Present—That, in performing their duty of inspecting His Majesty's gaol of Newgate, and the prisoners confined therein, they have much satisfaction in reporting the order, cleanliness and health manifested in every part of the said prison, which in their opinion reflects high credit on the keeper and subordinate officers thereof, who appear to have executed their respective offices with great diligence and humanity; nevertheless, they present the number of persons remaining under sentence of death in His Majesty's said gaol, as a great evil, and requiring serious attention; they find that not less than 101 persons, male and female, who have received judgment to die, are now remaining in the said prison, a number unprecedented at any former period; and from the information laid before them, they find, not only that the depravity of the said convicts is increased thereby, but the ends of justice, as far as it regards example, may be defeated, as the particulars of each case, after the lapse of some months, is liable to be forgotten, and the intention of punishment in some measure counteracted.

The Grand Jury, upon their oath, further present, that the roof of the said prison is in a very dilapidated and insecure state, many parts thereof being wholly decayed, the particulars whereof they specify in a Schedule annexed; and they present, that the safe custody of the prisoners confined *in certain parts* of the said prison is much endangered until effectual repairs of the said roof be made; and the said Grand Jury, upon their oath, present, that it is highly important that such effectual repairs be immediately performed.—

Peter Clark, foreman, Thomas Laing, Richard Heale, T. Acocks, John Jeyes, Charles Stuart, John Allen, Isaac Wilcox, Benjamin Tomkins, Benjamin Harris, James Soppett, William Venables, W. Williams, Thomas Hutchinson.

SCHEDULE of REPAIRS necessary:

Several parts on the North Side.
Ditto - - ditto - Chapel Yard and Middle Yard.
West end of Womens Side.

(10.)—Copy

(10.)—Copy.—Grand Jury Presentment, April Session 1817.

Recommend a separate room for the use of condemned persons after the death warrants are received.

Recommend the bread be received from the bakers in the evening, instead of morning.

Recommend the soldiers on duty be allowed a larger room.

Understanding room is very much wanted in the prison; and as the College of Physicians is to be disposed of, we strongly recommend it may be added to the prison.

Recommend that the chapel be enlarged by a gallery.

Present, that the female convicts are too much crowded, and recommend a room be erected against the wall in the female convicts yard.

Present the roof of the prison, not being sufficiently secure for the safe custody of the prisoners.

Present the defective state of the soil-pipe leading from the infirmary to the Press Yard.

Grand Jury Room,
19th April 1817.

Thomas Bennett,
Foreman.

(11.)—Copy.—Grand Jury Presentment, January Session 1818.

Sessions House Old Bailey, London, January 19, 1818.

To the Right honourable the Lord Mayor, and others His Majesty's Justices presiding at the Court of Session now holden at the Old Bailey.

WE, the Grand Jury of the City of London, having reported the several Bills of Indictment presented to us in due form, and being informed by the proper officer that no others are forthcoming, do wait upon the Court for the purpose of receiving our discharge. At the same time we wish to observe the great pleasure we have derived in perceiving that not one bill has been found for murder, and no one crime of a peculiar atrocious nature, a circumstance very gratifying to the Jury.

In the progress of our duty we visited the prison of Newgate, and especially directed our attention to the state of that prison; and we lament to record, that from the great influx of prisoners, it is hardly possible to keep them in a state of wholesome cleanliness, a circumstance we deeply deplore, as putting together all descriptions of offenders; an evil easily obviated in the opinion of the Grand Jury, (and in which they are borne out by Mr. Brown, the keeper of the prison,) if more space could be allotted, whereby a classification of the prisoners might be effected, to the evident improvement of their health, comfort, and morals.

The vast number of juvenile depredators in confinement, and the melancholy circumstance of *four* being under sentence of *death* in the condemned cells, and in irons, the youngest only nine years of age, and the oldest twelve, connected with the circumstance of very many of them, previous to trial, associating with the hardened, profligate, and abandoned, presents to us the idea of the improbability of reform, which a more judicious and attentive confinement might produce.

The deplorable situation of the male prisoners, with respect to clothing, particularly the juvenile part, made a melancholy impression on our minds: many were without shoes or stockings, others without shirts, and one almost in a state of nakedness; circumstances we most earnestly recommend to the consideration of those who arrange and manage the general business of the prison. And we are of opinion, that the general cleanliness and health of the prisoners of both sexes would be materially improved, if an allowance of soap was granted for that purpose.

In visiting the infirmary, the Grand Jury feel great pleasure in announcing that every necessary attention appears to be paid to the sick, and those in a convalescent state, and to the general health of the prisoners.

We further beg to state to the Court, the gratifying pleasure we received in witnessing the exertions of Mrs. Fry, and the ladies who so kindly assist her in attending to and instructing the female prisoners, whose reformed deportment, and cheerful acquiescence to their wishes, demonstrated with a force no language can describe, the affection these unfortunate women entertain for these humane, intelligent, and active females.

Signed, on behalf of the Grand Jury,
John Gann, Foreman.

(12.)—Copy.—Grand Jury Presentment, February Session 1818.

Sessions House Old Bailey, London, 21st February 1818.

To the Right honourable the Lord Mayor, and other His Majesty's Justices presiding at the Court of Session now holden at the Old Bailey.

THE Grand Jury of the city of London, having assembled for the performance of the duties usually intrusted to them, and having examined and reported the various bills presented, request permission, whilst receiving their discharge, to deliver this their Report.

N° 1.
NEWGATE.

They have great pleasure in stating, that the bills presented have been less numerous than usual, and that there is no case of the crime of murder amongst them.

The very unpleasant report circulated respecting the execution of the unfortunate criminals on Tuesday last, appeared to the Grand Jury to call for investigation, and the result of their inquiries has been such as to satisfy them that there was not any wilful negligence on the occasion, but what occurred was principally the effect of accident; still, however, they conceive it a duty to state their opinion, that the arrangement for these awful occasions are capable of improvement. A circumstance which unhappily took place at the gaol of Newgate during the time the Grand Jury were sitting, prompted also a further inquiry; namely, a suicide committed by the unhappy wretch William Haitch, charged with murder. The Grand Jury have been informed (and they have no reason to doubt the truth of the statement) that, notwithstanding his person had been searched, he was enabled to secrete an instrument of destruction, with which he effected the fatal purpose immediately previous to his being brought out for trial; the Grand Jury therefore submit it as their opinion, that in future a more rigorous search should be adopted.

On visiting Newgate, the Grand Jury were happy to perceive that cleanliness and good order very generally prevailed, and that the state of the infirmary was highly satisfactory, there being only two cases of serious indisposition.

The indiscriminate mixture of prisoners, both on the male and female side, is an evil still greatly to be deplored; and whilst this jury are strongly of opinion, that a distinct classification on their first entrance would be of essential benefit in promoting their health and moral improvement, they regret to state, that the limited extent of the prison, compared with the number of persons confined, render such an improvement at present impracticable; which inconveniences are much increased by a want of an earlier removal of the convicts under sentence for transportation, and the practice of sending persons to this gaol charged with offences committed in the county of Middlesex many days, and sometimes weeks, before their presence is necessary at the Sessions House.

They cannot conclude this Report without expressing, in an especial manner, the peculiar gratification they experienced in observing the important services rendered by Mrs. Fry and her friends, and the habits of religion, order, industry and cleanliness which her humane, benevolent and praiseworthy exertions have introduced among the female prisoners; and that, if the principles which govern her regulations were adopted towards the males as well as the females, it would be the means of converting a prison into a school of reform, and instead of sending criminals back into the world (as is now too generally the case) hardened in vice and depravity, they would be restored to it repentant, and probably become useful members of society.

Thomas Glover, foreman to Grand Jury, Henry Pounsett, Thomas Pearson, William Samler, William Pulsford, Samuel Brooke, T. Thompson, G. T. Turner, James Horwood, Edward Manley, P. P. Grellier, John Harman Eamer, R. Moore, Jonathan Monkhouse, John Pearson, Brailsford Bright, Henry Stainton.

(13.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate, who were tried and convicted at the Old Bailey Sessions, in the year 1817, and the various Offences they were convicted of.

Murder	1	Maliciously cutting, &c.	2
Burglary	37	Returning from transportation	2
Housebreaking	13	Having the possession of forged notes, knowing them to be forged	25
Highway robbery	44	Manslaughter	5
Forgery	8	Child stealing	3
Sheep stealing	1	Receiving stolen goods	15
Horse stealing	4	Grand Larceny	1,119
Stealing in a dwelling house	57	Misdemeanors	20
Ditto - on the river Thames	3		
Ditto - privately in a shop	11	Total	1,375
Ditto - above the value of 40s.	2		
Ditto - Post-office Letters	2		
Rape	1		

Of this Number, there were

Between the age of 10 and 14	81
14 and 18	238
18 and 21	211

(14.)—An

(14.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in Newgate in the year 1817, and how they have been disposed of.

Admitted		2,396
Executed	18	
Removed to the Hulks at Sheerness, Portsmouth, and Woolwich	492	
To Penitentiary	121	
To the Refuge for the Destitute	8	
To the Philanthropic Society	1	
To Bethlem Hospital	1	
Removed for trial at the various assizes	46	
Pardoned	25	
Died	9	
Removed to the House of Correction for London and Middlesex	531	
Acquitted and discharged, for various causes	1,141	

(15.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in Newgate under 21 years of Age.

Between 10 and 14	20
14 and 18	53
18 and 21	56
	129

More than one-fourth of the whole number of prisoners in custody.

(16.)—An ACCOUNT of the Size and Dimensions of the various Yards in Newgate.

	Length.		Breadth.
First Station:			
First yard	44	by	17 feet.
Second ditto	44	by	12½.
Third ditto	44	by	15½.
Second Station:			
First yard	40	by	24.
Second ditto	47	by	22.
Third ditto	47	by	24.
Third Station:			
First yard	38	by	27.
Second ditto	48	by	10.

W. R. H. Brown, Keeper.

(17.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in Custody in His Majesty's Gaol of Newgate, under 21 years of Age.

At the age of 10 years	2
— 11 ditto	1
— 12 ditto	4
— 13 ditto	6
— 14 ditto	8
— 15 ditto	6
— 16 ditto	16
— 17 ditto	18
— 18 ditto	23
— 19 ditto	23
— 20 ditto	27
— 21 ditto	14
Total	148

W. R. H. Brown, Keeper.

Nº 1.
NEWGATE.

(18.)—An ACCOUNT of the Number of Prisoners in Newgate on Wednesday the 1st day of April 1818, distinguishing those under Sentence of Death, and also those Tried from those Untried.

	Males.	Females.
Under sentence of death	13	1
Judgment respites	12	—
Transports, life	32	11
— 14 years	16	3
— 7 years	55	26
Misdemeanors	34	21
For trial	203	46
	365	108
Total	473	

W. R. H. Brown, Keeper.

(19.)—Copy.—Grand Jury Presentment, Session 1817.

To the Committee appointed by the Honourable the House of Commons.

The Grand Jury of the city of London, impannelled at the last October sessions, held at the Old Bailey, in the discharge of their duty, visited the gaol of Newgate, and having made inquiries as to the general arrangements adopted therein, feel so deeply impressed with the facts that have come to their knowledge, that they consider it their duty to make to you the following representation:—

In visiting the wards set apart for the male prisoners under sentence of death, the Grand Jury were strongly impressed with the impropriety of confining together persons thus circumstanced. If ever there was a period when solitude, and leisure for reflection and repentance, are indispensable to the present and future welfare of a human being, assuredly it is when the duration of his existence in this world may be so near its final termination. To those who are already penetrated with a sense of their own guilt, and are sincerely desirous of making their peace with that Almighty Being against whom they have offended, it presents the most serious impediments, by depriving them of that secret communion with their own souls, which can exist only in a state of solitude. The hardened criminal is confirmed in his impenitence by that support which association, to a certain degree, always affords; and by his example and conversation he throws the strongest obstacles in the way of those who are better inclined. The Grand Jury, therefore, think it their bounden duty to declare their opinion, that this system of confining condemned criminals ought no longer to be suffered to exist in a christian country.

It is with concern also that they observed, that persons are indiscriminately confined, whatever be the nature of their offences, whether accused of atrocious crimes, or committed upon charges comparatively light; whether old offenders, experienced in iniquity, or mere boys, who have never before been called upon to answer for a violation of the laws of their country. How detrimental this system is to the morals of all is most obvious. Many of those committed have deviated, for the first time, from the paths of honesty. By associating with the hardened and experienced villain the very roots of virtuous principle are extirpated. The novice in dishonesty becomes an adept in all the arts of wickedness and depravity, and those who are again returned into society come forth more inclined for the commission of crime, and infinitely better accomplished for its successful perpetration.

It was with deep regret that amongst the persons indiscriminately confined the Grand Jury found a large proportion of young persons, twenty-eight being under sixteen, twenty-three under eighteen, and thirty-four under twenty years of age. In the apartment which is appropriated to the purposes of a school the boys are confined without any classification whatever, the untried and convicted not even being separated.

In this room were twenty-six lads, making part of the number of offenders in the prison under sixteen years of age, the remainder being placed with the men in the several yards. The Grand Jury regret to learn, that so far from there being an intention to adopt a system of separating and classing the juvenile prisoners, the boys in the school have but recently been removed from more spacious apartments to the small room now occupied for their instruction.

The Grand Jury cannot too deeply lament, that at the present period, when the increased number of juvenile depredators in the Metropolis has arrested the attention, and justly excited the alarm of the public, no efficient measures should be adopted in this prison to diminish the evil by reforming the offenders. To the youthful class of offenders, all the observations as to the mischiefs arising from promiscuous association apply with tenfold force. The danger of contamination is infinitely greater; the hope of reformation under a proper system

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system infinitely stronger. Their tender age prevents the possibility of their minds being inured to crime, in the same degree at least as the veteran offender. The neglect, or loss of parents; the entire absence of all instruction; the pressure of severe want; seduction by others more experienced in vice, are the principal courses that have brought them to their present lamentable situation; and render them objects peculiarly deserving the commiseration and attention of Government, as well as of society at large.

It is most desirable that some means should be adopted for the division, classification, and employment of all the male offenders; and the Grand Jury beg leave to represent the urgent necessity of immediate measures being adopted for the separation of young offenders, by the appropriation of a building for their reception. The state of Newgate, and the alarming increase of juvenile criminals, earnestly call for the speediest adoption of remedial measures.

It was with the highest satisfaction that the Grand Jury on their visit to the apartments provided for the female prisoners, observed the great reformation which has been effected therein, and the beneficial consequences which have resulted from the introduction of order, cleanliness, and regular employment, by an association of ladies who visit the prisons.

The Grand Jury trust that the Prison Committee will agree with them in thinking that the evils which they have represented deserve the serious attention of His Majesty's Government.

(Signed,)

Richard Noble, foreman, Thomas Dornford, William Austin, Edward Hanson, Samuel Wilson, Theop. Hearsey, Thomas Ramsay, William Lunn, W. Mardall, Geo. T. King, Isaac Thompson, Robert Beachcroft, William A. Weguelin, John Cole, Jacob Osborne, William Smart, John Jackson King, Henry Toppin, Edward Frisby, Edward Longmore, Joseph Balfour, Arthur Spear, George Kendall.

(10.)—A STATEMENT of the Number of Prisoners in the Gaol of Newgate, together with the Number of Sick in the Male and Female Infirmary, including Convalescents and Out Patients, as extracted from the Returns made to the Court of Aldermen.

—	Number of Prisoners.	Number of Sick.
1815:		
January 17 - -	566	45
— 31 - -	548	45
February 21 - -	597	38
March 7 - -	536	43
April 4 - -	589	46
— 18 - -	549	43
May 9 - -	514	37
— 23 - -	486	35
June 6 - -	515	36
— 20 - -	566	35
— 24 - -	539	41
July 11 - -	485	38
— 25 - -	541	34
September 5 - -	581	49
— 26 - -	535	43
October 10 - -	474	43
— 31 - -	574	46
November 8 - -	522	39
December 12 -	645	61
1816:		
January 16 - -	469	40
— 23 - -	452	44
— 30 - -	386	36
February 13 - -	457	34
— 27 - -	421	30
1816:—*continued.*		
March 12 - -	475	36
— 19 - -	512	32
April 23 - -	490	34
May 14 - -	535	37
— 28 - -	580	34
June 11 - -	581	29
— 24 - -	512	31
July 2 - -	497	30
— 30 - -	416	31
September 5 - -	526	29
October 24 - -	478	23
December 3 - -	457	24
— 10 - -	449	32
1817:		
January 21 - -	560	31
February 4 - -	519	27
— 18 - -	529	28
March 4 - -	461	18
— 25 - -	452	22
April 15 - -	571	21
May 13 - -	404	20
June 10 - -	387	18
July 1 - -	491	36
September 16 - -	585	51

Examined,

Henry Woodthorpe, jun.

Deputy Town Clerk.

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NEWGATE.

QUERIES to Dr. Wm. BABINGTON, and his ANSWERS.

QUERIES.	ANSWERS.
1. The propriety of having a dormitory to each ward?	1. I am of opinion that each ward having a corresponding dormitory, is, on the whole, the preferable arrangement.
2. If a dormitory is proper, whether it is necessary to warm it; if so, whether of an equal or less temperature than the day-room?	2. If the dormitories are provided with beds and proper clothing, and can likewise be sufficiently ventilated, I conceive artificial warmth to be unnecessary.
3. Whether you would recommend frequent washing of the wards and dormitories during the winter?	3. A due attention to cleanliness I hold to be indispensable, and therefore think that, at all seasons of the year, the wards and dormitories will require to be frequently washed, or well rubbed with wet sand, which cannot be attended with any material risk to the prisoners if their bedding be removed from the floor.
4. What plan you would recommend for warming or ventilating the dormitories?	4. I have already stated that I consider artificial warmth to be conditionally unnecessary in the dormitories, and in reference to their ventilation would wish it to be made a question with the architect, whether, as the chimnies are now closed below, it would not be advisable that an aperture should be made in the flues as high as the ceilings will permit.
5. Whether it would be more conducive to the health of the prisoners not to have dormitories separate from the day-room, but to apportion the prisoners equally between the present dormitories and day-rooms; thereby permitting a less number to pass the day and sleep in the same ward?	5. The advantages of increase of room, and greater warmth, resulting from apportioning the prisoners equally between the day-rooms and dormitories, in the manner here proposed, would, in my judgment, be more than counterbalanced by the difficulty of maintaining the necessary degree of cleanliness and regularity in each.
6. If you object to dormitories, what means would you recommend to ventilate the wards appropriated as by N° 5.?	6. Approving of the establishment of dormitories, as I do, this question may be considered as being already sufficiently answered.
7. Whether it is likely to be injurious to the health of the prisoners to pass from a crowded day-room warmed by fires, to a dormitory not thoroughly dry and without a fire?	7. It being proposed that the prisoners bedding should be removed from the floor, and the ventilation of the dormitories duly attended to, the risk of transition from the day-rooms, must, to persons in health, be inconsiderable.
8. Whether it would be more conducive to the health of the prisoners to have small sleeping cells to hold one, two, or three persons; and whether such cells could be as easily kept clean and sweet as a larger dormitory?	8. I think not, but rather the contrary, inasmuch as a single room can be more effectually cleaned and ventilated, and must admit of more ready and complete inspection.
9. Whether you would recommend beds instead of rope mats, and of what kind?	9. The rope mat being, comparatively with other kinds of bedding, a dense material, must, when laid upon a damp floor, be objectionable; but if raised from the floor by being placed on a bedstead, it has the advantage of being durable, easily removed for being cleaned, and less likely to harbour vermin, or imbibe contagion, than most other substances.
10. Whether it is injurious to the health of the prisoners to have their mats placed upon the inclined plane, or whether you would recommend iron bedsteads, if sufficient room could be found to place them?	10. If bedsteads could be allowed, those of iron would undoubtedly be preferable to any others, in point of cleanliness and durability, and also in respect to security from fire.
11. Whether one rope mat, two blankets, and one rug, to each prisoner, is sufficient bedding during the whole year?	11. Certainly, under ordinary circumstances, but in very severe weather an additional blanket might be allowed to such of the prisoners as appeared to be in delicate health.
12. What means you would recommend to prevent infection being brought into the prison; also, your opinion as to the propriety of admitting beds, the private property of prisoners, into the prison?	12. In addition to the attention already given to the general management of the prison, I would recommend that particular care should be taken with respect to the reception of whatever clothing or bedding the prisoners may bring with them at the time of their admission.
13. Whether you would recommend that every prisoner, upon his arrival, should be put into a receiving room, until seen by the surgeon?	13. As I have reason to believe that the surgeon of the establishment gives attendance daily, it would no doubt be right that he should be consulted in all cases to which the least suspicion can attach.
14. Whether you would advise that upon the arrival of every prisoner, his clothes should be taken from him (a temporary dress being provided), and be well baked; and that he or she should be bathed in the warm or cold bath previous to his or her mixing with the other prisoners.	14. It would certainly give additional security to the Establishment, would these precautionary measures be uniformly carried into effect.

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15. Whether you would recommend a prison dress?	15. The greater number of the prisoners in Newgate being almost constantly in a state of change, the adoption of a prison dress would necessarily be attended with much difficulty, nor would it, unless in individual cases, be requisite, if the precautions referred to in the preceding question were duly observed.
16. What means you would recommend for warming, fumigating, and ventilating the different wards or dormitories?	16. My opinion on the subject of warming and ventilating the dormitories has been already stated; and, except under the prevalence of contagious disorder, it would not be necessary to have recourse to fumigation of any kind. That generally employed on such occasions, must be well known to the professional gentleman who has the care of the prison.
17. Your opinion of the infirmaries; whether you would recommend any alteration; also, of the propriety of a hospital dress?	17. It does not occur to me that in the management of the infirmary any improvement can be proposed.
18. What plan you would recommend for airing the bedding, and how often?	18. If bedsteads be allowed, and the bedding be raised from the damp floor, the making provision for hanging it up within the dormitories will be less necessary; but in either case its being carried into the open courts and exposed to the air, as often as the state of the weather will permit, I consider to be a regulation of great moment.
19. Your opinion of the size of the airing yards, and if adequate?	19. The airing yards I conclude to be as extensive as the dimensions of the prison will permit.
20. The Committee will be obliged to you to give any general remarks upon the means of keeping this prison healthy, that may have struck you, and do not come under any of the above queries.	20. The only circumstance of consequence which at present occurs to me as not already adverted to, respects the supply of water to the privies, which, if more abundant, and laid on by pipes, would certainly contribute to their greater cleanliness, especially in the dormitories.
Omitted—Diet and sufficiency of food.	I am not in possession of any details on the subject of the prison diet; but I observed the meat to be fresh and of good quality, and the bread, which was home-made, to be well baked and of a very wholesome description.

Aldermanbury, June 2d, 1818.

Dr. Wm. Babington.

APPENDIX, N° 2.—GILTSPUR-STREET.

N° 2.
GILTSPUR-STREET.

(21.)—AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Persons committed to Giltspur-street Prison, and House of Correction for the City of London;—

From the 1st day of January 1816 to the 1st day of January 1817.

GILTSPUR-STREET PRISON.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Felonies - -	794	216	1,010
Assaults - -	490	64	554
Misdemeanors -	1,090	1,007	2,097
Vagrants - -	648	324	972
			4,633
			107
TOTAL - -			4,740

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Felonies - -	64	12	76
Assaults - -	2	1	3
Misdemeanors -	21	7	28
TOTAL - -			107

From the 1st day of January 1817 to the 1st day of January 1818.

GILTSPUR-STREET PRISON.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Felonies - -	881	278	1,159
Assaults - -	717	283	1,000
Misdemeanors -	837	692	1,529
Vagrants - -	1,568	717	2,285
			5,973
			119
TOTAL - -			6,092
1816 -			4,740
Increase - -			1,352

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Felonies - -	64	17	81
Assaults - -	5	1	6
Misdemeanors -	21	6	27
Vagrants - -	1	4	5
TOTAL - -			119

John Teague,
Keeper and Governor,
March 5, 1818.

(22.)—REPORT of the Committee of Aldermen.

Wood, Mayor.

Tuesday the 5th day of March 1816, and in the 56th year of the Reign of George III. of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, &c.

The Gaol Committee did this day deliver into this Court, a Report in writing, under their hands, in respect of the dryness of the New London Prison for debtors; which was read in these words:

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen.

We of your Committee, appointed to consider all matters relating to the gaols of this city, do certify, That having received information of the death of a person in the New Prison for debtors, and that the coroner's jury who had sitten upon the body, had brought in their verdict "that the deceased came by his death by reason of the dampness of the prison;" met at the said New Prison, and having inspected the same, are perfectly satisfied that no just grounds whatever existed for such a verdict; and upon examining the surgeon, and those persons who had attended the prisoner previous to his death, we are convinced that he died in consequence of the diseased state of his body in other respects, with which he was afflicted before his entering the said prison; and we are confirmed in this opinion by the following letter received by the surgeon of the New Prison from the medical gentleman who had previously attended the deceased; viz.

"Waltham Abbey, February 18, 1816.

"Sir,

"In answer to your letter respecting Mr. Welch, I have attended him at different times "with spasmodic gout in the stomach, attended with asthma; in fact, labouring under general "disease.

"I am yours, &c.

"*John Carter.*"

"*P.S.* I certainly thought the complaints serious, and represented the same to Mr. "Welch; and I dare say his anxiety of mind latterly increased his disorders."

We beg leave further to certify, that although we were perfectly satisfied with the result of our investigation, we conceived that the verdict of a coroner's jury was of that serious nature, and likely to create so considerable a degree of alarm, that it would give much greater satisfaction to this honourable Court, to find that other persons coincided with us in opinion; we therefore not only directed, that three respectable surveyors should be requested to immediately view and examine the New Prison for debtors, and report their opinion as to its dryness and fitness for the reception of prisoners, but that three eminent physicians should also be requested to do the same; and Doctors Meyer, Babington, and Adams, having, agreeably to our request, viewed the said prison, as also Samuel Pepys Cockerell, Daniel Alexander, and John Shaw, Esquires, surveyors, we have hereunto annexed their several reports upon the subject: All which we submit to the judgment of this honourable Court; dated this 24th day of February 1816.

Mw Wood, Mayor.
Sam. Goodbehere,
W. Curtis.

Which report was well liked and approved of.

(23.)—Copy.—Surgeon's Report.

Report of Cases of Mental Derangement that have been in the Debtors Prison for London and Middlesex.

My Lord,

I take the liberty of presenting to your Lordship a statement of the cases of mental derangement which have been under my care in the Debtor's Prison for London and Middlesex; a place, from the number of persons therein confined, by no means calculated to restore them to society, at the same time creating serious disturbance, and most distressing interruption to the comforts of nearly four hundred persons now under confinement.

It

N° 2.
GILTSPUR-STREET.

It may be presumed it never was intended to place such unfortunate persons in the custody of the Sheriff of London, or the Act of Parliament would have made suitable provision for them by a separate establishment, the want of which is attended with great inconvenience, and a heavy expense to the Corporation.

Thomas Wadd, Surgeon.

To the Right hon. Matthew Wood,
Lord Mayor.

Date.	Name.	Age and Complaint.	Observations.
1815: December -	John Wells, junior -	Died of nervous fever, aged 40.	- - Was in a state of idiotcy, being subject to fits.
1816: February -	John Lucas - -	Died paralytic, aged 70.	- - Was in a state of idiotcy when brought in; a foul patient; and had a person to attend upon him.
1816: July - -	William Rhodes -	Aged 40, was discharged.	- - A lunatic previous to his being received in the prison; had a person appointed to take care of him; and had great difficulty to get his friends to remove him.
1816: October -	John Knott - -	Aged 46, now in the prison.	- - Was in a low state at first after a short time, became ill from fits; is now a foul patient, at times violent; is placed in a room by himself, with a person to attend him.
1816: November -	Mary Sherman - -	Aged 45, discharged.	- - This person came in a low state of mental derangement, having been twice in a lunatic asylum; a case not recoverable; was placed in a room by herself, and a person paid to attend upon her. Arrested by a near relation for board and lodging, who stated, they could not afford to keep her in a private mad-house. Was removed after much trouble and remonstrance, having been in the prison about a year and a half
1817: January -	William Carey -	Aged 50, discharged.	- - Appeared wrong in his intellects soon after being brought in; from epileptic fits, became violent; was placed in a room by himself, and a person paid to attend upon him. He had friends, who, though capable, were unwilling to get him removed, until the court of aldermen ordered an inquiry; when he was taken away, having been in the prison about a year.
1817: January -	David Henry -	Aged 28, now in the prison.	- - Is troublesome about once a month; does not require being placed by himself; has respectable friends, who prefer his being kept in the prison.
1817: March -	E. Boswell - -	—	- - Brought in deranged; in a short time removed. Dr. Powell having seen her.
1817: May - -	V. Chamberlain -	—	- - Brought in deranged; he did not remain many weeks in the prison, having been discharged as soon as a jury had decided upon his case.

N° 2.
BOROUGH
COMPTER.

(24.)—Borough Compter.—Dimensions of the several Wards, Cells, Yards, &c.

Male Debtors Day Rooms		14 feet long, 10 feet wide.	2 Rooms up stairs and down.
- - Ditto - - Sleeping Rooms		23 feet long, 6 feet wide.	
Female Debtors Day Room		14 feet long, 10 feet wide.	1 Room down stairs.
- - Ditto - - Sleeping Place		10 feet by 6 feet.	
Male Felons, &c. Day Room		12 feet long, 10 feet wide.	1 Room down stairs.
Female Felons, &c. Day Room		14 feet long, 10 feet wide.	1 Room up stairs in the debtor's side.
- - Ditto - - - Sleeping Place		10 feet by 6 feet.	
Cells Down stairs	N° 1.	9 feet by 6 feet.	2 Cells used for night charges.
	N° 2.	10 feet by 7 feet.	
- - - Up stairs	N° 1.	9 feet by 6 f.	used for felons to sleep in.
- - - Ditto	N° 2.	10 feet by 7 f.	
- - - Ditto	N° 3.	9 feet by 6 f.	
- - - Ditto	N° 4.	10 feet by 7 f.	
Yards—Debtors		19 feet by 19 f.	
Felons		15 feet by 12 f.	out of which two privies of 4 feet by 4 feet each (externally) are taken.

An ABSTRACT from the Surgeon's Diary at the Borough Compter, from the 10th of December 1817 to the 7th of January 1818.

December 10th.—Mackintosh has a feverish complaint.

December 11th.—Visited the prisoners. Mackintosh is not better; his fever continues, but not of a malignant or infectious nature.

December 12th.—Mackintosh's fever still continues; but is, on the whole, better.

December 13th.—Visited the prison. Mackintosh's fever still continues with little abatement, but with no unfavourable symptoms.

December 14th.—Visited. Mackintosh is better; the other prisoners healthy.

December 15th. Visited. Mackintosh goes on well; the rest of the prisoners healthy.

December 17th. Visited the prison. Mackintosh is in a convalescent state; two other prisoners require medical assistance.

December 27th.—Visited the prison. Williams, Noble, and Rawlins, are ill, and require medical assistance.

December 30th.—Visited the prison; Williams, Noble, and Rawlins, have the venereal disease, and considerable fever; Carter is also attacked by fever; Mochell is ill, and two of the prisoners have ulcerated legs.

It is absolutely necessary the four prisoners suffering from fever should be separated from the rest; that one of the female wards should be appropriated to that purpose, and that proper nourishment should be provided for them.

December 31st.—The patients are all much better this morning, as far as regards the fever, but the venereal, in three of the cases, is very severe.

1818, January 1st.—The patients continue to improve, except Williams, who is in a dreadful state from the venereal disease: must have a pint of porter daily.

January 2d.—The patients are all better this morning, except Williams, whose complaint is not worse.

January 4th.—The patients all much better, except Williams, who is not worse.

January 5th.—Visited the prison. Some of the prisoners have contracted the itch; the patients this morning are all much better, and I believe Williams to be out of danger.

January 7th.—The patients are all convalescent, except Williams, who is much better.

APPENDIX, N° 3.—BRIDEWELL and BETHLEM.

(25.)—**BALANCES** in the hands of the Treasurer of Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals at Christmas, in the following years:

	£.	s.	d.
In 1810 - - - - - -	909	15	—
1811 - - - - - -	1,543	5	—
1812 - - - - - -	2,613	17	1
1813 - - - - - -	785	2	5
1814 - - - - - -	3,512	6	—
1815 - - - - - -	2,228	11	1
1816 - - - - - -	1,316	18	1

(26.)—BRIDEWELL HOSPITAL ACCOUNTS.

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1809 to Christmas 1810.

RECEIPTS:	£.	s.	d.
To Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends - - - -	6,723	16	—
- - Benefactions, and Poors Box - - - - - - - - -	121	19	6
- - Produce of Timber sold off Northleigh Farm, Oxon - - -	301	14	—
- - Balance overpaid - - - - - - - - - - -	4,839	15	6
£.	11,987	5	—

DISBURSEMENTS:	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Balance overpaid at Christmas 1809 - - - - - - -				6,092	10	1
- - Expenses attending the Vagrants, one Year, up to Christmas - - - - - - - - - -	561	19	6			
- - Ditto, - - - - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices, including 506*l.* 17*s.* for Repair of Artsmasters Houses	1,060	3	8			
- - Distribution of Lock and Fowkes' Gifts - - -	80	—	—			
- - Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day; also new Chapel Clock, 117*l.* 8*s.* - - - - - - - - -	639	17	2			
- - Workmen's Bills, for Repairs at the Hospital, including 95*l.* 17*s.* for Precinct Sewer - - - - - -	1,197	13	—			
- - Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground -	275	13	—			
- - Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, and Allowances to Tenants; including 187*l.* 7*s.* for Repairs of Estates in Oxfordshire and Wapping -	606	16	2			
- - Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and Clothing for the beadles, including 141*l.* 17*s.* per Centage to Surveyor	1,472	12	5			
				5,894	14	11
£.				11,987	5	—

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital, at Christmas 1810.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll - - - -	6,467	16	11			
Deductions from the Rental - - - - - -	606	16	2			
				5,861	—	9
Dividends on 30,000*l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent. - - - - - -				900	—	—
£.				6,761	—	9

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1810 to Christmas 1811.

RECEIPTS:	£.	s.	d.
To Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends - - - -	7,231	8	5
- - Benefactions - - - - - - - - - - -	82	10	—
- - Balance overpaid - - - - - - - - - - -	2,720	13	6
£.	10,034	11	11

(*continued.*)

No 3.
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

Disbursements:	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Balance overpaid at Christmas 1810				4,839	15	6
- - Expenses attending the Vagrants, one Year, up to Christmas, 1811	603	11	1			
- - - - Ditto - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	577	6	6			
- - Distribution of Fowkes' Gift	10	—	—			
- - Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day	588	4	—			
- - Workmen's Bills, for Repairs at the Hospital	410	1	—			
- - Taxes in Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	262	6	—			
- - Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax and Allowances to Tenants; also Repair of Pavement in the Precinct, &c.	652	11	10			
- - Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and Clothing for the Beadles, including also 807*l.* 7*s.* per Centage to Surveyor	2,090	16	—	5,194	16	5
£.				10,034	11	11

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital at Christmas 1811.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.6,685	—	5			
Deductions from the Rental	652	11	10			
				6,032	8	7
Dividends on 30,000*l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				900	—	—
				£. 6,932	8	7

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1811 to Christmas 1812.

Receipts:	£.	s.	d.
To Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends	6,912	12	6
- - Balance overpaid	778	1	8
£.	7,690	14	2

Disbursements:	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Balance overpaid at Christmas 1811				2,720	13	6
- - Expenses attending the Vagrants, one year, up to Christmas 1812	823	6	11			
- - Ditto - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	637	5	3			
- - Distribution of Lock and Fowkes' Gifts	35	—	—			
- - Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day	569	11	10			
- - Workmen's Bills, for Repairs at the Hospital, including 179*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* for repairing King Edward Stairs, Wapping	834	14	—			
- - Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	279	18	—			
- - Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, and Allowances to Tenants	410	—	8			
- - Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and Clothing for the Beadles	1,380	4	—	4,970	—	8
£.				7,690	14	2

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital at Christmas 1812.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.6,851	19	11			
Deductions from the Rental	410	—	8			
				6,441	19	3
Dividends on 30,050*l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				901	10	—
				£. 7,343	9	3

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1812 to Christmas 1813.

Receipts:	£.	s.	d.
To Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends	7,574	8	7½
- - Benefaction	25	—	—
- - Produce of Materials of Houses pulled down in Wapping	215	4	9
£.	7,814	13	4½

N° 3.
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

Disbursements:

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Balance overpaid at Christmas 1812				778	1	8
- - Expenses attending the Vagrants, one Year, up to Christmas 1813	784	15	11½			
- - Ditto - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	687	2	10			
- - Distribution of Lock, Fowke, and Palmers' Gifts	100	—	—			
- - Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day	727	12	2			
- - Workmen's Bills for Repairs at the Hospital	1,402	2	—			
- - Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	279	3	6			
- - Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, Pavement Rate in Wapping, and Allowances to Tenants	546	5	11			
- - Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and clothing for the Beadles, including also 120*l.* 8*s.* per Centage to Surveyor	1,480	6	3	6,007	8	7½
By casual Expenses—viz. Expenses of Committee of Survey, Northleigh Farm	86	1	—			
Copy Northleigh Award	20	—	—			
Land Surveyor	26	5	—	132	6	—
				6,917	161	3½
Balance in favour of this Hospital				896	17	1
£.				7,814	13	4½

Net Income of Bridwell Hospital at Christmas 1813.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.7,004	1	2			
Deductions from the Rental	546	5	11	6,457	15	3
Dividends on 30,050 *l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				901	10	—
				£. 7,359	5	3

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1813, to Christmas 1814.

Receipts:

	£.	s.	d.
To Cash, being the Balance for the year 1813	896	17	1
- Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends	7,081	3	7
£.	7,978	—	8

Disbursements:

	£.	s.	d.
By Expenses attending the Vagrants, one year, up to Christmas 1814	703	16	10
- Ditto - - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	836	7	6
- Distribution of Lock, Fowke, and Palmer's Gifts	130	—	—
- Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day, and Illuminations on the taking of Paris, and on the Peace	1,047	13	10
- Workmen's Bills, for Repairs at the Hospital	2,108	3	9
- Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	276	14	—
- Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, and Allowances to Tenants	537	15	11
- Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and Clothing for the Beadles	1,436	5	6
- Casual Expenses, viz. Law Charges	89	16	—
	7,166	13	4
Balance in favour of this Hospital	811	7	4
£.	7,978	—	8

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital, at Christmas 1814.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.7,097	4	2			
Deductions from the Rental	537	15	11	6,559	8	3
Dividends on 30,050*l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				901	10	—
				£. 7,460	18	3

N° 3.
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital, from Christmas 1814, to Christmas 1815.

RECEIPTS:	£.	s.	d.
To Cash, being the Balance for the year 1814	811	7	4
- Rents, Land Tax, Arrears, Annuities and Dividends	7,849	17	4
- Cash taken out of the Poor's Box	30	—	—
- Balance overpaid	961	11	4
£.	9,652	16	—

DISBURSEMENTS:	£.	s.	d.
By Expenses attending the Vagrants, one year, up to Christmas 1815	952	19	4
- Ditto - - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	906	2	—
- Distribution of Lock, Fowke, and Palmer's Gifts	85	—	—
- Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day, and Illuminations for the Victory of Waterloo	715	13	11
- Workmen's Bills for the new Buildings, and Repairs at the Hospital	4,523	6	—
- Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	279	3	—
- Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, and Allowances to Tenants, including the Repair of the Oxfordshire Estate, &c.	839	19	3
- Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and Clothing for the Beadles	1,350	12	6
£.	9,652	16	—

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital, at Christmas 1815.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.7026	2	5			
Deductions from the Rental	461	7	6			
				6,564	14	11
Dividends on 30,050 *l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				901	10	—
				£. 7,466	4	11

ABSTRACT of the Accounts of Bridewell Hospital from Christmas 1815, to Christmas 1816.

RECEIPTS:	£.	s.	d.
To Rents, Land Tax, Annuities, Arrears and Dividends	7,257	18	3
- - Legacies and Benefactions	250	—	—
£.	7,507	18	3

DISBURSEMENTS:	£.	s.	d.
By Balance overpaid at Christmas 1815	961	11	4
- - Expenses attending the Vagrants, one Year, up to Christmas 1816	1,223	16	8
- - Ditto - - - - - the Artsmasters and Apprentices	633	2	—
- - Distribution of Lock, Fowke, and Palmer's Gifts	110	—	—
- - Tradesmen's Bills, including the Dinners at Easter and on St. Matthew's Day	634	19	2
- - Workmen's Bills for Repairs at the Hospital	1,146	13	—
- - Taxes in the Hospital, and Rent of Burial Ground	302	19	4
- - Deductions from the Rental, viz. Insurances, Land Tax, Allowances to Tenants, &c.	594	7	3
- - Salaries and Gratuities to Officers and Servants, and to those attending the Vagrants, and clothing for the Beadles	1,377	8	6
£.	6,984	17	3
Balance in Favour of this Hospital	523	1	—
£.	7,507	18	3

Net Income of Bridewell Hospital, at Christmas 1816.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Rent, Land Tax, and Annuity Roll	£.7,003	2	2			
Deductions from the Rental	594	7	3			
				6,408	14	11
Dividends on 30,050 *l.* Stock, at 3 per Cent.				901	10	—
				7,310	4	11
Legacies				250	—	—
				£. 7,560	4	11

N° 3
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

(27.)—A RETURN of Male and Female Prisoners committed as disorderly to Bridewell Hospital, in the years 1815, 1816, and 1817;—distinguishing their Names, Ages, and Periods of Confinement.

RETURN of MALE PRISONERS:—1815.

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
William Richardson	14 days	55	William Backett	1 month	24
John Clements	1 month	25	Thomas Bruce	1 month	40
James Smith	14 days	45	Thomas Dale	14 days	55
John Lester	1 month	28	Thomas Howard	14 days	22
John Stribehill	1 month	23	Thomas Jordan	7 days	18
William Johnson	1 month	21	Thomas Cummins	7 days	18
Thomas Young	7 days	27	William M^cLearen	7 days	40
Joseph Cooper	14 days	30	John Disley	14 days	21
John Lewis	14 days	18	Martin Conner	1 month	19
William Brown	1 month	57	Samuel Murdy	1 month	19
John Turner	14 days	28	Solomon Ceghan	1 month	40
George Ratcliffe	14 days	20	John Moody	1 month	27
John Power	1 month	17	Richard Minshar	1 month	46
James Wilson	1 month	65	John Griffiths	1 month	21
David Frost	14 days	20	Thomas Jones	1 month	24
Henry Turbitt	14 days	18	Henry Ray	1 month	18
Charles Hart	1 month	42	Robert Oates	1 month	21
Thomas Townsend	14 days	42	Joseph Crook	14 days	48
Samuel Pickett	14 days	33	Richard Minshar	1 month	44
John Brown	1 month	35	William Ellis	1 month	21
George Dent	1 month	35	Patrick Agar	1 month	39
Joseph Tadmen	1 month	12	John Smith	14 days	18
James Wilson	1 month	65	Richard Minshar	1 month	44
Thomas Candy	1 month	36	William Davis	1 month	18
John Power	1 month	79	Henry Jones	1 month	18
John Hughes	1 month	35	John Curl	1 month	14
John Knowles	1 month	66	Luke Riddle	1 month	48
Thomas Swinton	1 month	47			

TOTAL MALE Prisoners - - 55.

RETURN OF FEMALE PRISONERS:—1815.

Mary Clarke	7 days	40	Elizabeth Bates	1 month	22
Mary Turner	7 days	17	Sarah Perry	14 days	30
Sarah Freeman	1 month	31	Elizabeth Lewis	14 days	28
Frances Turner	7 days	24	Ann Phillips	14 days	28
Ann Johnson	7 days	44	Lydia Ashom	14 days	19
Elizabeth Keetler	7 days	26	Sarah Collins	14 days	18
Mary Morfore	14 days	25	Jane Lee	7 days	26
Sarah Williams	1 month	20	Harriett Bedford	1 month	23
Sarah Smith	1 month	50	Sarah Hunt	1 month	23
Caroline Davis	14 days	23	Ann Rix	7 days	39
Anna Nend	14 days	26	Catherine Welsh	7 days	52
Anna Ward	1 month	19	Mary Marlow	7 days	16
Mary Riley	1 month	18	Ann Piper	7 days	20
Mary Hedlam	1 month	40	Ann Smith	14 days	28
Susanah Durant	14 days	22	Mary Corvon	7 days	32
Ann Matthews	1 month	35	Sarah Larkwell	1 month	20
Catherine Bolton	1 month	30	Ann Briant	1 month	20
Elizabeth Montague	1 month	21	Elizabeth Smith	1 month	23
Margaret Thornhill	7 days	17	Eleanor Donovan	1 month	30
Sarah Allen	7 days	19	Rachel Wood	1 month	25
Sarah Smith	1 month	50	Mary Edwards	1 month	26
Ann Marshall	1 month	40	Jane Tollett	1 month	19
Mary Badley	1 month	36	Phœbe Robinson	21 days	23

(*continued.*)

N° 3.
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

Return of FEMALE Prisoners:—1815:—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Martha Brown	14 days	26	Elizabeth Donelly	14 days	20
Ann Smith	1 month	11	Ann Barrett	1 month	32
Ann Wood	14 days	21	Mary Milburton	14 days	38
Maria Hunt	14 days	17	Elizabeth Taylor	1 month	43
Mary Turner	14 days	19	Rebecca Smith	1 month	30
Harriett Lewis	7 days	20	Catherine Scott	1 month	25
Sarah Jackson	7 days	20	Mary Johnson	1 month	24
Mary Anthony	7 days	22	Jane Varlow	14 days	25
Ann Evans	1 month	25	Ann Smith	7 days	21
Sarah Smith	1 month	49	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	23
Sophia Roberts	1 month	28	Sarah Jackson	7 days	20
Sarah Graves	14 days	37	Sarah Williamson	7 days	34
Elizabeth Woodward	1 month	25	Elizabeth Dyer	1 month	44
Hannah Brookes	14 days	21	Charlotte Turner	14 days	27
Mary Simmonds	7 days	19	Mary Smith	14 days	25
Jane Adams	7 days	29	Mary Ellis	14 days	23
Mary Smith	1 month	39	Martha Thomas	1 month	31
Elizabeth Fenson	1 month	17	Sarah Smith	1 month	53
Hannah Donovan	14 days	19	Elizabeth Jones	7 days	17
Hannah Bruce	14 days	20	Mary Mitchell	7 days	17
Sarah Davis	21 days	27	Mary Ferguson	7 days	25
Elizabeth Price	14 days	35	Mary Wright	7 days	16
Elizabeth Dillon	14 days	18	Mary Burgess	7 days	17
Maria Williams	1 month	23	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	22
Elizabeth Varlow	1 month	29	Elizabeth Newton	7 days	25
Elizabeth Vanson	1 month	17	Maria Meek	7 days	23
Elizabeth Dyer	1 month	43	Mary Smith	14 days	29
Sarah Davis	14 days	25	Sarah Bates	1 month	26
Harriett Bedford	14 days	23	Charlotte Williams	14 days	25
Mary Ann Adams	7 days	23	Susan Oliver	1 month	18
Frances Payne	7 days	45	Louisa Blake	14 days	20
Mary Pritchard	1 month	17	Mary Mathews	14 days	36
Catherine Doyle	14 days	17	Ann Clarke	14 days	23
Charlotte Bacon	14 days	17	Ann Mitchell	14 days	20
Catherine Mills	14 days	22	Charlotte Larkin	14 days	20
Elizabeth Spencer	14 days	34	Mary Ryan	14 days	19
Amelia Hughes	14 days	22	Mary Dorkins	14 days	19
Elizabeth Burfoot	14 days	20	Sarah Howard	14 days	19
Elizabeth Burton	1 month	27	Sarah Praeil	14 days	20
Mary Bennett	14 days	20	Sarah Lewis	14 days	20
Mary Ferguson	14 days	24	Mary Scott	14 days	19
Hannah Nicholson	14 days	22	Sarah Garrett	14 days	21
Sarah Davis	14 days	25	Sarah Hill	14 days	25
Elizabeth Taylor	14 days	43	Ann Mathews	1 month	36
Mary Dyer	14 days	29	Catherine Doyle	7 days	18
Ann M'Carty	7 days	55	Mary Smith	7 days	18
Mary Kempshaw	1 month	16	Mary Davis	7 days	38
Maria Smith	1 month	16	Alice Haydon	7 days	21
Mary Barnes	1 month	29	Mary Ann Johnson	7 days	18
Jane Varlow	1 month	27	Ann Hill	7 days	28
Elizabeth Edwards	7 days	25	Maria Hunt	14 days	16
Jane Ives	14 days	45	Esther Harper	14 days	19
Ann Hudson	7 days	44	Sarah Jones	1 month	26
Mary Williams	7 days	37	Hannah Bruce	14 days	20
Mary Devine	1 month	14	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	23
Mary Hunt	1 month	16	Jane Adams	1 month	29
Margaret Croft	1 month	23	Hannah Wilson	14 days	20
Mary Wells	7 days	20	Ann Simpkin	14 days	32
Hannah Nicholson	1 month	22	Mary White	1 month	36
Ann Williams	14 days	17	Mary Butcher	1 month	26
Mary Buckley	14 days	17	Mary Smith	1 month	25
Ann Jones	14 days	19	Sarah Powell	1 month	21
Harriett Eveley	7 days	16	Margaret Brown	1 month	22
Charlotte Williams	7 days	16	Margaret Brotherton	1 month	21
Mary Marshall	1 month	36	Ann Purchase	1 month	29
Ann Wilson	14 days	19	Ann Forecast	1 month	21
Mary Smith	14 days	18	Mary Davis	1 month	26

(*continued.*)

No 3.
BRIDEWELL
and
BETHLEM.

Return of **Female** Prisoners:—1815—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Elizabeth Burfoot	1 month	20	Sarah Smith	1 month	50
Sarah Gray	1 month	17	Sarah Evans	1 month	16
Rachel Stock	1 month	33	Matilda Nelson	1 month	16
Jane Green	14 days	26	Louisa Bruce	1 month	20
Martha Nagill	1 month	37	Sophia Coleman	1 month	32
Marcella Ashwell	1 month	50			

Total Female Prisoners for 1815 - - 191.

(28.)—RETURN of MALE PRISONERS:—1816.

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
John Underwood	1 month	62	John Mooring	1 month	13
James Bewick	1 month	33	John Richardson	1 month	44
Edward Coppendale	7 days	40	Jeremiah Hagen	1 month	45
Robert Gun	1 month	22	William Gore	1 month	21
Edward Barrett	1 month	22	John Jones	1 month	28
Richard Minshar	1 month	45	Joseph Brown	14 days	31
John Griffin	1 month	21	Thomas Walters	14 days	33
George Price	1 month	18	David Walters	14 days	25
John Richardson	1 month	44	Thomas Chitty	14 days	30
John Thomas	1 month	26	William Savage	1 month	27
Samuel Weston	14 days	43	Richard Marshall	1 month	26
Furson Grepeake	1 month	53	William Thorp	14 days	39
George Jones	14 days	14	John Hitchin	14 days	23
John Popjoy	1 month	17	Thomas Brown	1 month	42
Michael Smith	14 days	52	Peter Tehany	1 month	18
Thomas Bond	14 days	47	William Harris	14 days	26
Thomas Carter	1 month	59	John Palmer	7 days	47
John Bowyer	1 month	16	Thomas Jones	14 days	25
William Siers	1 month	16	Torence Densey	14 days	28
Thomas Jones	7 days	17	John Ferguson	14 days	22
Woollen Davis	1 month	50	John Millot	7days	13

Total Male Prisoners for 1816 - - 42.

RETURN of FEMALE PRISONERS:—1816.

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Maria Hunt	1 month	17	Hannah Blake, disorderly	1 month	34
Ann Johnson	1 month	16	Maria Barlow, disorderly pass	14 days	27
Susannah Perkins	7 days	21	Elizabeth Ellis	1 month	32
Mary Pritchard	7 days	17	Peggy Simmonds	1 month	27
Eliza Williams	7 days	18	Elizabeth Gould	1 month	18
Jane Smith	7 days	48	Ann Barnett	1 month	33
Mary Thompson	1 month	23	Mary Howard	1 month	20
Mary Macdonald	7 days	27	Matilda Yates	1 month	20
Margaret Smith	1 month	30	Elizabeth Martin	1 month	35
Sarah Hind	1 month	27	Sarah Wood	1 month	32
Catherine Macdonald	1 month	37	Ann Smith	1 month	29
Rose Davis	14 days	25	Jane Hayes	1 month	20
Ann Cohen	14 days	30	Ann Ladmore	1 month	28
Charlotte Bird	14 days	33	Ann Bellingham	1 month	21
Sarah Hawthorn	1 month	42	Mary Fowles	1 month	18
Ann Hill	1 month	23	Catherine Butler	1 month	38
Ann Smith	1 mouth	21	Mary Stewart	1 month	19
Eliza Dibdin	1 month	20	Sarah Ray	1 month	25
Mary Smith	1 month	26	Maria Robinson	1 month	18
Eliza Cooke	1 month	26	Ann Lovell	1 month	23
Mary Price	1 month	23	Elizabeth Dunn	1 month	22
Ann Baker	1 month	18	Mary Caroline Maylin	1 month	18
Mary Nugent	1 month	34	Susannah Jemmison	1 month	21
Sarah Anderson, disord^{y} pass	7 days	31	Frances Davis	1 month	32
Jane Green - ditto	7 days	19	Elizabeth Smith	1 month	23
Ermin Jordan, - ditto	7 days	38	Mary Wright	1 month	22

275.

(*continued.*)

Return of Female Prisoners:—1816—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Eleanor Copeden	14 days	26	Mary Hunter	14 days	23
Ann Rex	14 days	19	Maria Smith	14 days	22
Mary James	14 days	20	Maria Clank	14 days	20
Jane Pearce	14 days	40	Elizabeth Main	14 days	20
Ann Campbell	14 days	22	Esther Edwards	14 days	23
Elizabeth Edwards	14 days	28	Jane Wood	14 days	20
Catherine Best	1 month	54	Maria Smith	14 days	29
Jane Hicks	1 month	38	Mary Williams	14 days	20
Rachel Stocks	1 month	33	Ann Lewin	14 days	21
Mary Truman	1 month	29	Sarah Smith	14 days	50
Lydia Hudson	1 month	23	Snsannah Warren	1 month	43
Mary Brotherton	1 month	21	Elizabeth Bucknell	1 month	33
Mary Buckley	1 month	18	Mary Turner	1 month	19
Susannah Pritchard	1 month	18	Maria Barr	1 month	28
Jane Brown	1 month	37	Ann Buck	1 month	32
Mary Ann Bell	1 month	22	Eleanor Bamfield	1 month	20
Ann Briden	1 month	36	Mary Baylis	1 month	25
Sarah Taylor	1 month	35	Mary Smith	1 month	23
Mary Pritchard	1 month	17	Margaret Brown	1 month	32
Elizabeth Davis	14 days	18	Martha Brown	1 month	28
Mary Marchant	7 days	26	Mary Jones	14 days	19
Lucy Sands	1 month	29	Ann Rix	14 days	19
Sophia Perkins	1 month	25	Mary Simmonds	14 days	19
Hannah Nicholson	1 month	23	Ann Mansfield	14 days	23
Mary Phillips	14 days	44	Elizabeth Serjeant	14 days	30
Sarah Brett	14 days	44	Ann Brown	1 month	38
Sarah Wanell	1 month	34	Harriett Ladwell	14 days	25
Mary Wilson	1 month	32	Deborah Cropeld	14 days	24
Elizabeth Pritchard	1 month	22	Mary Bagshaw	14 days	17
Amelia Yours	14 days	22	Margarett Thornhill	14 days	18
Ann Perry	14 days	25	Eleanor Griffin	14 days	26
Elizabeth Adams	14 days	25	Mary Morris	1 month	30
Mary Doyle	1 month	29	Sophia Coleman	1 month	32
Ann Hall	1 month	33	Elizabeth Price	1 month	35
Ann Jeffereys	1 month	26	Mary Pritchard	14 days	17
Ann Forecast	1 month	26	Elizabeth Watson	1 month	22
Sarah Carter	1 month	32	Abigal Smith	1 month	35
Mary Ferguson	1 month	25	Ann Thomas	14 days	29
Mary Devine	1 month	18	Mary Lawrence	1 month	36
Ann Smith	1 month	23	Jane Hicks	1 month	38
Ann Jay	1 month	21	Ann Jackson	1 month	25
Eliza Perry	1 month	22	Martha Bailey	1 month	23
Harriett Bedford	1 month	24	Mary Ann Jackson	1 month	24
Jane Adams	14 days	23	Clementina Smith	1 month	38
Martha Watson	1 month	20	Alice Wright	14 days	36
Martha Brown	1 month	20	Mary Ann Barnes	14 days	20
Maria Meek	1 month	22	Lydia Curry	14 days	21
Mary King	1 month	17	Ann Jackson	14 days	21
Ann Smith	1 month	27	Catherine Thompson	1 month	21
Ann Anthony	1 month	23	Ann Smith	1 month	33
Elizabeth Harris	1 month	25	Maria White	1 month	19
Kezia Still	1 month	24	Ann Jacks	1 month	33
Mary Staples	1 month	21	Elizabeth Thatcher	14 days	46
Sarah Chippendale	1 month	22	Catherine Scott	1 month	24
Susannah Mears	14 days	30	Harriett Jones	14 days	14
Mary Perrior	14 days	44	Elizabeth Maycock	14 days	19
Mary Robarts	14 days	24	Mary Ferguson	14 days	25
Catherine Rooke	1 month	51	Elizabeth Williams	1 month	20
Elizabeth Downan	14 days	34	Eliza Cooke	7 days	28
Jane Warn	14 days	26	Amelia Blackett	1 month	29
Elizabeth Chandler	14 days	37	Mary Marshall	1 month	37
Martha Nagen	14 days	25	Elizabeth Newman	1 month	22
Ann Smith	14 days	22	Ann Wheatley	1 month	36
Ann Thompson	14 days	22	Martha Brown	14 days	27
Matilda Lewis	14 days	20	Mary Davis	1 month	23
Catherine Pearce	14 days	30	Mary Smith	14 days	25

(*continued.*)

Return of FEMALE Prisoners:—1816:—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Catherine Smith	14 days	22	Ann Reed	14 days	27
Hannah Fox	14 days	17	Ann Smith	1 month	19
Mary Sparrow	1 month	17	Charlotte Edwards	1 month	32
Sarah Grey	1 month	18	Eliza Cooke	1 month	29
Elizabeth Barrett	1 month	20	Mary Smith	7 days	23
Elizabeth Fuller	1 month	21	Eleanor Double	14 days	31
Hannah Gimmersal	1 month	22	Margaret Johnson	14 days	32
Ann Smith	1 month	29	Ann East	1 month	16
Ann Purchase	1 month	50	Mary Lewis	1 month	17
Sarah Smith	1 month	35	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	33
Mary Wood	1 month	21	Elizabeth Barton	1 month	29
Mary Jones	1 month	20	Sarah Glasgow	1 month	22
Sarah Powell	1 month	30	Elizabeth Robins	1 month	23
Mary Smith	1 month	18	Elizabeth Robinson	1 month	18
Jane Carter	1 month	20	Maria Kinnaught	1 month	21
Mary Buckley	1 month	16	Maria Meek	1 month	22
Mary White	14 days	25	Mary Pritchard	1 month	18
Mary Yours	14 days	22	Mary Lewis	14 days	25
Caroline Davis	1 month	26	Mary Ferguson	1 month	26
Ann Westley	1 month	33	Hannah Bell	7 days	36
Rachel Stock	1 month	32	Sophia Roberts	7 days	29
Catherine Perry	1 month	36	Jane Griffiths	7 days	21
Charlotte Knight	1 month	31	Mary Ann Graham	7 days	17
Elizabeth Pritchard	1 month	23	Mary Ann Jackson	1 month	21
Martha Watkins	14 days	19	Mary Williams	14 days	20
Rosetta Lucas	14 days	16	Eliza Cooke	1 month	29
Mary Smith	14 days	23	Susannah Slocombe	1 month	22
Ann Jeffereys	14 days	28	Catherine Rooke	1 month	52
Amelia Gregory	1 month	30	Elizabeth Hall	1 month	19
Catherine Scott	1 month	24	Elizabeth Smith	7 days	23
Sarah Lawrance	7 days	37	Hannah Harris	14 days	26
Sarah James	1 month	23	Sarah Summers	21 days	21
Jane Adams	7 days	23	Sarah Tidman	14 days	20
Sarah Wallace	1 month	45	Elizabeth Brown	1 month	40
Elizabeth Rayner	1 month	20	Elizabeth Sells	1 month	36
Margaret Mason	1 month	52	Mary Marchant	1 month	27
Ann Dunmore	1 month	20	Sarah Tidman	1 month	38
Elizabeth Thomas	1 month	30	Ann Gregory	14 days	28
Eliza Cooke	1 month	29	Sarah Davies	14 days	25
Elizabeth May	1 month	28	Ann Thompson	1 month	22
Ann Smith	1 month	22	Mary Smith	1 month	41
Maria Meek	1 month	22	Ann Dunmore	1 month	20
Elizabeth Franklin	1 month	25	Mary Cunningham	1 month	25
Esther Jackson	1 month	31	Susannah Jameson	1 month	18
Sarah Jacks	1 month	33	Catherine Scott	14 days	26
Elizabeth Waters	1 month	31	Mary Powell	1 month	27
Hannah Nicholson	1 month	22	Eliza Cooke	1 month	29
Catherine Rooke	1 month	50	Mary Welsh	14 days	46
Susannah Slocombe	1 month	22	Sarah Wright	14 days	23
Ann Hinton	1 month	21	Ann Brown	1 month	23
Mary Nightingale	1 month	23	Susannah Baker	14 days	44
Elizabeth Barlow	1 month	30	Margaret Adams	1 month	50
Sophia Davies	14 days	20	Ann Lambert	1 month	26
Mary Smith	14 days	29	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	23
Catherine Thompson	1 month	21	Elizabeth Moss	1 month	45
Harriett Simmonds	14 days	31			

TOTAL FEMALE Prisoners for 1816 - - 295.

(29.)—RETURN of MALE PRISONERS:—1817.

Christian Frederick	1 month	32	Thomas Warren	1 month	15
James Connolly	1 month	20	Charles Lewis	1 month	16
James George Baker	14 days	16	James Haines	1 month	16
William Fair	14 days	15	James Gibson	1 month	16
Cornelius Bulkley	1 month	44	John Warren	1 month	13
John Turvey	1 month	19	Samuel Archer	1 month	12
Thomas Nichols	1 month	19	Edward Bovine	1 month	16

(continued.)

N° 3.
BRIDEWELL
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Return of MALE Prisoners:—1817—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
John Anderson - - -	6 months	27	John Batham - - -	1 month	22
William Brown - - -	1 month	23	Mordecai Cohen - -	1 month	14
Samuel Hatkin - - -	1 month	19	Michael Ryley - - -	1 month	55
William Birch - - -	1 month	17	John Smith - - -	1 month	31
William Page - - -	7 days	12	Edward Boven - - -	1 month	16
John Lane - - -	1 month	17	John Isaacs - - -	1 month	25
George Wilson - - -	1 month	20	John Nightingale - -	1 month	18
Thomas Finton - - -	3 months	55	John Reed - - -	1 month	52
John Wilcox - - -	3 months	24	John Murrey - - -	1 month	17
Raymond Richard - -	3 months	28	Richard Bryan - - -	1 month	36
John West - - -	1 month	15	Peter Delaney - - -	1 month	52
Jonas Benjamin - - -	1 month	11	James Edwin - - -	1 month	20
Charles Toppin - - -	1 month	12	Joseph Phillips - - -	1 month	29
Thomas Gibbs - - -	1 month	31	James Cooper - - -	14 days	30
George Archer - - -	1 month	32	Timothy Crane - - -	14 days	52
William Shrubsoll - -	1 month	18	William Ruston - -	1 month	19
John Pullen - - -	14 days	19	John Richardson - -	14 days	45
William Barr - - -	1 month	24	Benjamin Watson - -	1 month	39
Andrew Manning - -	1 month	30	Brown James - - -	6 months	28
John Road - - -	1 month	25	W. Jones, otherwise Yates -	6 months	18
James Anderson - -	1 month	19	Robert Williams - -	1 month	22
Christopher Kitts - -	1 month	59	Samuel Clode - - -	6 months	22
John Taylor - - -	1 month	27	William Carr - - -	6 months	20
Thomas Pratt - - -	1 month	15	John Coote - - -	6 months	18
John Wickett - - -	1 month	21	William Reed - - -	6 months	20
Thomas Usher - - -	1 month	69	William Grant - - -	6 months	21
John Kell - - - -	1 month	22	John Wright - - -	1 month	31
Michael Kent - - -	1 month	36	James Richards - -	1 month	14
Thomas Guye - - -	1 month	20	William Pryor - - -	1 month	14
Joseph Dickins - - -	1 month	20	John Owen - - -	1 month	65
John Thomas - - -	1 month	16	William Shakelwell - -	14 days	23
John Lyon - - -	6 months	28	William Dearlove - -	1 month	14
John Kelly - - -	1 month	23	John Owen - - -	7 days	65
Thomas M'Iver - - -	1 month	37	William Gower - - -	1 month	23

TOTAL MALE Prisoners for 1817 - - 82.

RETURN of FEMALE PRISONERS:—1817.

NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Caroline Mant - - -	1 month	23	Ann Thompson - - -	14 days	25
Ann Jeffreys - - -	1 month	30	Elizabeth James - -	7 days	23
Ann York - - -	1 month	21	Ann Robinson - - -	1 month	20
Eliza Parry - - -	3 months	22	Catherine Scott - - -	1 month	25
Mary Williams - - -	3 months	21	Sarah Levy - - -	14 days	26
Mary Ann Gunn - -	14 days	33	Mary Thorp - - -	14 days	30
Elizabeth Williams - -	1 month	23	Mary Clark - - -	7 days	28
Elizabeth Hall - - -	1 month	19	Eliza Hill - - -	14 days	25
Ann Jay - - - -	1 month	22	Elizabeth Williams - -	14 days	22
Ann Wingfield - - -	1 month	20	Ann Bagshaw - - -	1 month	19
Mary Smith - - -	1 month	22	Ann Smith - - -	1 month	16
Mary Holmes - - -	14 days	19	Margaret Thornhill - -	14 days	19
Hannah Smith - - -	14 days	19	Sarah Davis - - -	14 days	26
Ann Williams - - -	1 month	18	Julia Smith - - -	1 month	29
Maria Meek - - -	1 month	22	Fanny Elizabeth - -	14 days	29
Eleanor Brown - - -	14 days	57	Ann Sheppard - - -	1 month	18
Susanna Johnson - -	14 days	19	Eliza Thompson - -	14 days	23
Mary Arnold - - -	1 month	22	Ann Fairburn - - -	1 month	32
Ann Green - - -	1 month	19	Margaret Cook - - -	7 days	47
Elizabeth Robinson - -	14 days	18	Sarah Atherley - - -	7 days	26
Mary Lambeth - - -	14 days	20	Elizabeth Gray - - -	7 days	25
Hannah Nicholson - -	1 month	23	Elizabeth Cornwell - -	7 days	22
Jane Whitaker - - -	1 month	35	Mary Dyer - - -	1 month	29
Mary Outlaw - - -	1 month	27	Mary Ann Pearce - -	7 days	25
Susanna Jeffries - -	1 month	22	Hannah Nicholson - -	1 month	23
Catherine Butler - -	14 days	39	Eliza Woodford - -	7 days	28
Bridget Kelly - - -	1 month	26	Catherine Scott - -	7 days	25

(*continued.*)

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Return of Female Prisoners:—1817—*continued.*

NAMES.	Period of Confinement	Age.	NAMES.	Period of Confinement.	Age.
Elizabeth Williams	14 days	22	Harriet Bedford	1 month	27
Eliza Smith	7 days	23	Elizabeth Abbot	1 month	35
Catherine Scott	14 days	25	Sarah Hodson	1 month	40
Jane Cooper	14 days	19	Mary Davis	1 month	19
Ann Simpson	1 month	29	Ann Isaacs	1 month	20
Ann Parker	1 month	29	Mary Hicks	14 days	42
Mary Brown	1 month	56	Mary Smith	1 month	42
Margaret Lomas	1 month	27	Elizabeth Barrett	1 month	23
Emma Mitchell	1 month	25	Mary Isaacs	1 month	24
Mary Smith	1 month	28	Elizabeth Wolley	1 month	22
Elizabeth Smith	1 month	30	Sarah Herbert	1 month	32
Sarah Burton	1 month	25	Mary Roed	1 month	20
Elizabeth Saunders	1 month	25	Elizabeth Johnson	1 month	22
Elizabeth Williams	1 month	22	Elizabeth Slocum	1 month	22
Mary Ann Jackson	1 month	25	Jane Bamford	1 month	21
Ann Jay	1 month	22	Hannah Morris	1 month	19
Eliza Edwards	1 month	29	Sarah Wall	1 month	18
Catherine Haney	14 days	28	Elizabeth M'Laughlen	1 month	19
Sophia Knabshaw	7 days	23	Sarah Davis	1 month	25
Mary Johnson	1 month	24	Elizabeth Stokes	1 month	29
Mary Arnold	1 month	23	Maria Duncan	1 month	24
Sarah Brown	1 month	20	Ann Mitchell	1 month	25
Elizabeth Outlaw	1 month	26	Elizabeth Hanson	1 month	28
Mary Ann Linsey	1 month	18	Hannah Brooks	1 month	30
Mary Ann Pearce	1 month	25	Mary Smith	14 days	23
Elizabeth Hall	1 month	20	Eliza Cofield	14 days	25
Mary Jones	1 month	19	Sarah Taylor	14 days	28
Elizabeth Roberts	1 month	40	Jane Bunny	1 month	18
Catherine Kelley	14 days	29	Rachael Lyon	1 month	24
Ann Roberts	1 month	26	Ann Fitzhenry	7 days	22
Mary Welch	1 month	20	Isabella Goodwin	7 days	37
Elizabeth Smith	1 month	25	Deborah Saunders	1 month	37
Sarah Thompson	1 month	23	Mary Anderson	1 month	19
Elizabeth Varlow	1 month	30	Margaret Graham	7 days	28
Sophia Roberts	7 days	31	Mary Wilson	7 days	22
Ann Delamain	1 month	20	Harriet Lidwell	1 month	28
Margaret Thompson	1 month	30	Mary Jones	14 days	19
Ann Goddan	1 month	38	Elizabeth Double	1 month	28
Catherine Sullivan	1 month	27	Mary Welch	14 days	20
Harriet Hudson	1 month	27	Catherine Flewin	14 days	42
Mary Ann Prichard	1 month	28	Susannah Janson	14 days	18
Sophia Perkins	1 month	24	Ann Jones	1 month	18
Ann Roberts	1 month	20	Sarah Davis	14 days	25
Mary Duncan	1 month	28	Catherine Marr	14 days	28
Mary Richardson	1 month	24	Maria Douglas	1 month	24
Mary Brown	1 month	46	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	26
Ann Parker	1 month	29	Eliza Jackson	14 days	25
Mary Dyer	1 month	30	Hannah Nicholson	14 days	26
Sophia Coleman	14 days	33	Ann Dickson	7 days	28
Ann Romanell	14 days	30	Jane Parker	7 days	34
Eliza Wilson	14 days	28	Catherine Sullivan	7 days	38
Ann Dixon	1 month	27	Mary Outlaw	1 month	27
Mary Ann Marshall	1 month	40	Eleanor Bridges	14 days	33
Martha D. Scott	7 days	22	Mary Alder	1 month	31
Mary Ann Marshall	1 month	40	Elizabeth Robinson	1 month	19
Elizabeth Swinfield	1 month	20	Hannah Nicholson	1 month	26
Elizabeth Noel	1 month	24	Margaret Thornhill	1 month	20
Matilda Turner	1 month	20	Mary Anthony	1 month	24
Ann Morris	1 month	23	Martha Bailey	14 days	23
Ann Jones	1 month	56	Catherine Baker	1 month	21
Sarah Lawrence	14 days	48	Susanna Johnson	14 days	21
Mary Elder	1 month	60	Mary Welch	14 days	20
Mary Ann Pearce	7 days	26	Catherine Kelley	7 days	30
Mary Ann Bell	1 month	25			
			Total Female Prisoners for 1817		181

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(30.)—A RETURN of the Apprentices in Bridewell Hospital from the 25th March 1798, to the 25th March 1818;—being a period of Twenty years.

Name of Apprentice.	Name of Master.	Trade.	When bound.	Observations.
Thomas Frisbee	William Frisbee	Working silversmith.	1799, Dec. 4th.	- - Journeyman working Silversmith out of the Hospital.
Thomas Bryer	Henry Bryer	Printer.	1800, February 4th.	- - Died, after term expired, on passage to the West Indies.
Cornelius Wood	Roger Owen	Engine ribbon weaver.	1801, May 11th.	- - Run away.
William Richard Ringwood.	- - Ditto	- - Ditto	- - Ditto	- - Died long after apprenticeship.
James Watson	Henry Bryer	Printer.	July 14th.	- - Journeyman Printer out of the Hospital.
James Hall	William Berresford	Bookbinder.	- - Ditto	- - Became a master bookbinder, & afterwards went abroad.
Benjamin Crump	William Frisbee	Working silversmith.	- - Ditto	- - Died during apprenticeship.
William Budd	Robert Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto	- - Journeyman weaver in the Hospital.
Samuel Mitchell	Thomas Stewart	- - Ditto	1802, April 1st.	- - Journeyman weaver out of the Hospital.
William Mead	William Frisbee	Working silversmith.	- - Ditto	- - Run away.
Thomas Seaward	Robert Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	May 7th.	- Secretary to two charitable institutions.
Theodore Peter Conture.	Henry Bryer	Printer.	- - Ditto	- - Journeyman printer out of the Hospital.
John Christy	- - Ditto	- - Ditto	1803, April 21st.	- - A journeyman printer, occasionally working in the Hospital.
Peter Mounier	Thomas Stewart	Engine ribbon weaver.	May 6th.	- - Now in India, in a very good situation.
Charles Astle	Henry Bryer	Printer.	June 15th.	- - Run away.
George Harrison	Robert Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto	- - Journeyman weaver in the Hospital.
John Clement Wright.	Roger Owen	- - Ditto	Nov. 24th.	- - Journeyman weaver in the Hospital.
Joseph Stroud	William Berresford	Bookbinder.	1804, May 4th.	- - Journeyman bookbinder out of the Hospital.
Peter Seaward	Thomas Stewart	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto	- - Journeyman engine weaver, now in the Hospital.
James Cahuac	William Frisbee	Working silversmith.	1804, October 10th.	- - Journeyman, working out of the Hospital.
Benjamin Johnson	Roger Owen	Engine ribbon weaver.	1805, June 20th.	- - Journeyman engine weaver in the hospital.
William Thompson	Robert Smart	- - Ditto	- - Ditto	- - Run away 28th July 1807, and since dead.
Joseph Hill	William Berresford	Bookbinder.	- - Ditto	- - Journeyman bookbinder out of the Hospital.
William Long Ward	Henry Bryer	Printer.	- - Ditto	- - Run away; now a journeyman printer out of the Hospital.

(*continued.*)

Return of the Apprentices in Bridewell Hospital—1818.—*continued.*

Name of Apprentice.	Name of Master.	Trade.	When bound.	Observations.
Joseph Glover -	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	1805, June 20th.	- - Journeyman working silversmith out of the Hospital.
Jonathan Alderton May.	Thomas Stewart -	Engine ribbon weaver.	Dec. 4th.	- - Now in the island of Ceylon, in a good situation.
Thomas Bancroft -	Roger Owen - -	- - Ditto - -	1806, February 5th.	- - Finished his term, but not known what has become of him.
Henry Townshend	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	May 7th.	- - Journeyman printer out of the Hospital.
John Chatterton -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	June 5th.	- - Journeyman printer out of the Hospital.
Thomas Elson Eales	Robert Smart -	Engine ribbon weaver.	October 1st.	- - Run away.
John Crook - -	Roger Owen - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Died about two years after apprenticeship expired.
Thomas Davis -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1807, April 7th.	- - Journeyman printer out of the Hospital.
Richard William Barnes.	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	- - Ditto - -	- - Journeyman working silversmith out of the Hospital.
Daniel Thurston -	Thomas Stewart -	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto - -	- - Journeyman engine weaver in the Hospital.
Edmund Miller -	Roger Owen - -	- - ditto - -	July 1st.	- - Journeyman engine weaver in the Hospital.
Frederick Gibson	Robert Smart - -	- - ditto - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Journeyman engine weaver out of the Hospital.
John Rose -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	Nov. 4th.	- - Run away; but now a journeyman printer in the Hospital.
Thomas Branch -	William Berresford	Bookbinder.	Dec. 2d.	- - Journeyman bookbinder out of the Hospital.
John Cradock -	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	1808, February 2d.	- - Run away.
Charles Barford -	William Berresford	Bookbinder.	- - Ditto - -	- - Journeyman bookbinder out of the Hospital.
John Wadham -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	May 4th.	- - Journeyman printer out of the Hospital.
William Edwards	Roger Owen - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	July 6th.	- - Died during his apprenticeship.
James Arthur -	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	1809, March 24th.	- - Clerk in the City.
John Elson Eales -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	July 4th.	- - Journeyman printer in the Hospital.
Benjamin Round -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	October 3d.	- - Journeyman printer in the Hospital.
Robert Colcott -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	July 5th.	- - Run away just before the expiration of his term, and went to India as a soldier.
Richard Clondes Cole.	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	Nov. 7th.	- - Journeyman bookbinder out of the Hospital.
George Allingham	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1810, April 3d.	- - Journeyman printer in the Hospital.
Thomas Lenny -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	July 3d.	- - Journeyman printer in the Hospital.
James Smith -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Run away.

(*continued.*)

Return of the Apprentices in Bridewell Hospital.—1818.—*continued.*

Name of Apprentice.	Name of Master.	Trade.	When bound.	Observations.
Samuel Bayley -	Robert Smart - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	July 4th.	- - Run away.
William Henry Jenkins.	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1811, April 2d.	- - Died during apprenticeship.
John Magson -	Walter Wellings -	Taylor.	January 24th.	- - Run away.
William Mardin -	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	April 3d.	- - Journeyman working silversmith out of the Hospital.
Henry Norris -	John Jones - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto - -	- - Died during his apprenticeship.
Joseph Patrick -	Thomas Wm Smart	- - Ditto - -	July 26th.	- - Run away.
Atkins Buck -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	Sept. 10th.	- - Run away.
George Talbot Okey.	William Frisbee -	Working silversmith.	Dec. 4th.	- - Apprentice out of the Hospital.
George Harbridge	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	1812, March 3d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
James Palmer -	Thomas Wm Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	Dec. 1st.	- - Died during apprenticeship.
Charles Goodison -	Walter Wellings -	Taylor.	June 5th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Stephen Allen -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	June 2d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Henry Andrews -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	July 7th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
John Watson -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	Dec. 1st.	- - Run away during his apprenticeship.
John Shutt - -	Thomas Wm Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto - -	- - Run away.
Giles Gapper -	Walter Wellings -	Taylor.	Dec. 15th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Henry Price -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1813, Sept. 7th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
John Whiteling -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	April 6th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Joseph Matthews -	John Jones - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	May 4th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
George Warr -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	November 2d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Carling -	Thomas Wm Smart	- - Ditto - -	Dec. 7th.	- - Run away.
Robert Jefferys -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1814, April 5th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
George Peacock -	John Jones - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	May 3d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Joseph Findlow -	- - Ditto - - -	- - Ditto - -	June 7th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
John Fretton -	Thomas Wm Smart	- - Ditto - -	August 2d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Edmund Richardson	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	June 7th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Richard Johnson -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	August 9th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Joseph Pring -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	1815. February 7th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Strange -	John Jones - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	- - Ditto - -	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Joseph Lewis.	Thomas Wm Smart	- - Ditto - -	- - Ditto - -	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.

(*continued.*)

Return of the Apprentices in Bridewell Hospital:—1818.—*continued.*

Name of Apprentice.	Name of Master.	Trade.	When bound.	Observations.
Nicholas William Keene.	Walter Wellings -	Taylor.	May 6th.	- - Died during apprenticeship.
John Wise - -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	August 1st.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
John Todd - -	Thomas Wm Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	1816, April 2d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Dolamore	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	Sept. 3d.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
James Mitchell -	Henry Bryer - -	Printer.	1817, August 5th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Thomas Taylor -	Thomas Wm Smart	Engine ribbon weaver.	Nov. 4th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Raver -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	- - Ditto - -	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
Thomas Kearsley -	John Jones - -	Engine ribbon weaver.	1818, January 13th.	- - Apprentice now in the Hospital.
William Mason -	Walter Wellings -	Taylor.	Indentures not yet executed.	- - Now in the Hospital.
John Brettell -	George Kitcat -	Bookbinder.	- - Ditto - -	- - Now in the Hospital.

A SUMMARY OF THE FOREGOING RETURN.

Journeymen now working in the Hospital with their former Masters - - -	12
Journeymen working with other Masters out of the Hospital - - - -	20
Apprentices run away - - - - - - - - - - - - -	15
Died during their Apprenticeship - - - - - - - - -	5
Ditto - since - - - ditto - - - - - - - - - - -	3
Apprentices now remaining in the Hospital, (including Two whose Indentures are not yet executed) - - - - - - - - - - -	27
Apprentices finishing their Time out of the Hospital - - - - - -	2
Finished his Term, but not known what has become of him - - - -	1
Not having followed the Trades to which they were apprenticed - - -	2
Gone abroad - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3
	90

John Poynder,
15th April 1818.

Nº 4.
DARTMOOR
PRISON.

APPENDIX, Nº 4.—DARTMOOR PRISON.

Transport Account Office, 6th of May, 1818.

(31.)—STATEMENT of the Average Numbers of Prisoners of War, in Health and Sickness, at the Depôts of Dartmoor and Norman Cross, between the 1st of April 1812, and the 1st of April 1814.

AT DARTMOOR:

Prisoners in Health		7,740
- - - Sick	56	
- - - Convalescent	10	
- - - With Wounds, &c.	25	
		91
		7,831

AT NORMAN CROSS:

Prisoners in Health		5,190
- - Sick	24	
- - - Convalescent	6	
- - - With Wounds, &c.	10	
		40
		5,230

APPENDIX, Nº 5.

(32.)—RATION of Provisions for Prisoners of War, in Health.

IT is contracted and agreed, this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; between the Commissioners for conducting His Majesty's Transport Service, for the care of sick and wounded seamen, and for the care and custody of prisoners of war, for and on behalf of His Majesty, of the one part; and of the other part, as follows: the said for the consideration hereinafter mentioned, do for executors, administrators, and assigns, covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to victual all prisoners of war, in health, that may be confined by allowing and delivering to each of such prisoners, on each and every day, the following quantities of good and wholesome provisions; that is to say;

DAILY RATION:

Sunday. Monday. Tuesday. Thursday. Saturday.	One pound and a half of bread. Half a pound of fresh beef. Half a pound of cabbage or turnips fit for the copper. One ounce of Scotch barley. One-third of an ounce of salt. One-quarter of an ounce of onions.
Wednesday:	One pound and a half of bread. One pound of good sound herrings, (red herrings and white pickled herrings to be issued alternately.) One pound of good sound potatoes.
Friday:	One pound and a half of bread. One pound of good sound dry cod fish. One pound of good sound potatoes.

And

N° 5.

And the said for executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to allow, over and above the exact amount of the stipulated rations, at the rate of five pounds per hundred weight on the gross quantity of beef, and two pounds per hundred weight on the gross quantity of bread delivered daily for the use of the prisoners, to make up for the loss or waste which must necessarily arise from the division of those articles into single rations. And the said for executors, administrators and assigns, do further covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to provide fuel, and dress all the said provisions at own costs, being permitted to hire cooks from amongst the prisoners, at the rate of threepence a man a day.

And, further, that the quality of the provisions so to be served to the said prisoners as aforesaid shall be as follows: that is to say,

BREAD.—To be made of whole meal, the produce of good marketable British or foreign wheat, and well dressed through a thirteen shilling seam-cloth. The said bread to be well baked into loaves of four pounds and a half, or three pounds Avoirdupois; to be weighed at the end of six hours after the same shall have been baked; to be made with salt and not with sea-water, and to be equal in quality in all respects to the bread supplied by the Victualling Board to the Ordinary of His Majesty's Navy.

BEEF.—To be good and wholesome fresh beef, not bull beef, and delivered in clean quarters, a fore and hind quarter alternately, when the number of prisoners is sufficient for the expenditure of that quantity; but if it be not so, then in parts of such quarters, a fore and hind quarter alternately.

COD FISH.—To be the produce of the British fisheries, or the fishery at Newfoundland. To be delivered in whole fish. Cabbages or turnips to be issued as the agent of the said Commissioners shall from time to time direct.

RATION of Provisions for Prisoners of War, in Sickness.

IT is contracted and agreed, this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and and in the year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God, of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; between the Commissioners for conducting His Majesty's Transport Service, for the care of sick and wounded seamen, and for the care and custody of prisoners of war, for and on behalf of His Majesty of the one part; and of the other part, as follows: the said for the consideration hereinafter mentioned, do for executors, administrators and assigns, covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to provide for all such sick and wounded as shall from time to time be received the daily allowances of provisions and necessaries hereinafter mentioned, to be issued in such manner as the same shall be demanded by the surgeon, that is to say,

FOR PATIENTS ON LOW DIET.—A pint of tea in the morning for breakfast, and a like quantity in the evening, eight ounces of bread, two ounces of butter, or in lieu of butter, one pint of milk, half a pint of broth, or such an additional quantity thereof as the surgeon shall judge proper. For drink, barley-water, toast and water, water-gruel, lemon-water, vinegar-whey, balm or sage-tea. In febrile cases the barley-water may be acidulated with lemon-juice.

FOR PATIENTS ON HALF DIET.—Tea morning and evening as above, sixteen ounces of bread, eight ounces of beef or mutton, eight ounces of greens, or good sound potatoes, one pint of broth, and three pints of small beer. For common drink, barley-water.

FOR PATIENTS ON FULL DIET.—Tea morning and evening as above, sixteen ounces of bread, sixteen ounces of beef or mutton, one pint of broth, sixteen ounces of greens or good sound potatoes, and two quarts of small beer. For common drink, barley-water.

In particular cases of debility, or where the appetite may be capricious, the surgeon may substitute fish, fowl, veal, lamb, or eggs, provided the expense incurred for the same do not exceed the price of the beef or mutton allowed. One dram and a half of good souchong tea, seven drams of good muscovado sugar, and one sixth part of a pint of genuine milk, to be allowed to every pint of tea. The broth to be made by boiling together the meat allowed in the half and full diet, with the addition of twelve drams of good sound barley, twelve drams of good onions, or one ounce of leeks, and three drams of parsley for every pound of meat.

N° 5.

And the said for executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to allow, over and above the exact amount of the stipulated rations, at the rate of five pounds per hundred weight on the gross quantity of beef or mutton, and two pounds per hundred weight on the gross quantity of bread, delivered daily for the use of the sick and wounded to make up for the loss or waste which must necessarily arise from the division of those articles into single rations. And the said for executors, administrators, and assigns, do further covenant and agree with the said Commissioners and their assigns, Commissioners for the time being, on behalf of His Majesty, to provide fuel, and dress all the said provisions at own costs.

And, further, that the quality of the provisions so to be served to the said sick and wounded as aforesaid, shall be as follows: that is to say,

Beer.—Every seven barrels to be brewed from eight bushels of strong amber malt, and six or seven pounds of good hops, such as are used by the common brewers.

Bread.—To be the best wheaten bread.

Butter.—To be good salt butter.

Mutton.—To be good wether mutton.

Beef.—To be good ox beef.

Greens.—To be stripped of the outside leaves, and fit for the copper.

Potatoes.—To be good sound potatoes.

DARTMOOR PRISON.

33.—COPY of a Letter from the Commissioners of Transports, on Dartmoor Prison, to Lord Viscount Sidmouth.

My Lord, Transport Office, 18th February 1815.

As it is likely that the American prisoners of war now confined in the depôt on Dartmoor will soon be released, we feel it to be our duty to submit to your Lordship's consideration, whether that depôt may not be very advantageously appropriated in time of peace to the reception of convicts intended to be transported to New South Wales; it being a prison of great security, and very conveniently situated for the embarkation of convicts at Plymouth.

We beg leave to represent to your Lordship, that it appears to us that great advantage to the cause of humanity will be produced by the appropriation of Dartmoor prison to this purpose, by obviating the necessity of shipping convicts for transportation at improper seasons of the year; which is at present caused by the occasionally crowded state of the gaols of this kingdom.

It has often been necessary, from this circumstance, to embark convicts and dispatch them to New South Wales in the winter season, a measure which has proved fatal to many of those unfortunate criminals, particularly in the recent case of the ship "Surrey," which received convicts in January 1814, sailed from this country on the 20th of the next month, and arrived at that colony in the July following with the loss of fifty men; which great mortality may be chiefly attributed to the cold and blowing weather which was experienced on her sailing from England; and the sudden change of climate from extreme cold to excessive heat on crossing the line, and again meeting the winter season in high southern latitudes, before her arrival at her destination.

It is to avoid this calamity that we recommend that the depôt at Dartmoor, which is calculated to contain 9,000 prisoners, with barracks and guard-houses sufficient for the accommodation of 600 soldiers, may be fitted for the reception of convicts from the several county gaols; from among whom the most healthy and strong may be selected for embarkation, in parties of 200 each in each ship of 450 or 500 tons, and be dispatched from this country to New South Wales in the months of May, June, July, August, and early in September, in every year; the adoption of which regulations, we apprehend, would ensure to the convicts a good passage, prevent the introduction of disease on their embarkation, and be in every respect more comfortable to them than the continuance of the present mode of transporting them in all seasons of the year.

We have the honour to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient humble servants,

(Signed) *Rup. George.*
J. Bowen.
John Forbes.
J. Harness.

Transport Account Office,
16th April, ½ past 2 P.M.

The Right Honourable Lord Viscount Sidmouth,
&c. &c. &c.

N° 6.
ABERDEEN
BRIDEWELL.

APPENDIX, N° 6.—ABERDEEN BRIDEWELL.

(34.)—MONTHLY REPORT of the State of the *Aberdeenshire* Bridewell, for February 1818.

Date.	Names.	Cause of Commitment:— Whence, and by whom Committed:— Period of Confinement, &c.	Age.	Confinement repeated.
1818: Feb. 5	George Sillo	Convicted of petty theft; four months per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	16	—
— 14	Nathaniel Millar	Convicted of stealing from his master; six months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	17	—
— 16	James Michie	Breach of the game laws; committed by sentence of an adjourned general meeting of the Commissioners of Supply of the county of Aberdeen; six weeks.	38	—
— 18	George Wards	Vagrants, &c. Wards for two months; and Turner for four months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	25	—
— 18	Ann Turner		19	—
— 18	John Smith	Breach of duty as a constable; three weeks; per sentence of Alexander Crombie, J. P.	43	—
— 18	Ann Connon	Convicted of petty theft; four months, per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	23	
— 19	Andrew Robertson	Cook on board the Thetis Smack of Aberdeen; convicted of stealing different articles from said vessel; one month; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	46	—
— 19	Marg^t Hutcheon	Vagrant; twelve months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	40	7
— 20	William Forbes	Convicted of stealing watches from the shop of Robert Milne, watchmaker in Aberdeen; Forbes for nine months, and Martin for four months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	16	2
— 20	John Martin		14	—
— 20	John M^cNab	Convicted of petty theft; four months; per sentence of Baillie Milne.	15	—
— 23	Isabel M^cPherson	Convicted of petty theft; two months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	39	—
— 25	Elizabeth Rae	Convicted of embezzling her employer's property; two months; per sentence of Baillie Chalmers.	25	—

Remarks:—How employed, &c.

9	Weaving.
3	Winding Weft.
3	Spinning.
12	Picking Oakum.
2	Picking Cotton.
2	Sick.
31	

21 Prisoners in the house, 31st January.
14 - - Ditto have been committed during the month.
35
4 Liberated.
31 Prisoners in the house, 28th February 1818.
viz. Males - - - - 21
Females - - - - 10
31
Committed from the town - - 26
Ditto - - from the county - 5
31

28th Feb. 1818.

Liberations, and State of Account at Liberations.

1818: Feb. 2.	Alexander Cloudsly, - - Balance in his favour 16*s.*
— 13.	Margaret Hutcheon, - - Balance of loss 5*l.* 8*s.* being in bad health, and unable to work.
— 17.	James M^cIntosh, Balance of loss, 2 *s.* 6 *d.*
— 27.	Robert Simpson, - - - Account balanced.

James Watson, Governor.

N° 6.
ABERDEEN
BRIDEWELL.

(35.)—BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS, established by the Commissioners for the internal Management and Economy of the Bridewell and House of Correction for the City and County of Aberdeen, August 1809.

I. IMMEDIATELY on the commitment of prisoners, they are to be completely stripped of every article of wearing apparel, and to be deprived of all money, scissars, knives, or other offensive weapons. These articles are, along with their clothing, (which is to be previously cleaned, if necessary,) to be inventoried, bundled up, and labelled with the name of the prisoner to whom they belong. The whole are then to be deposited in a room to be kept for the purpose, where they are to remain until the expiry of the prisoner's confinement, and then to be delivered back. In particular cases, where clothes are covered with vermin, or in a situation rendering them unfit to be kept, the governor is empowered to burn or destroy them: But this is not to be done unless with the approbation of any one or more of the commissioners.

II. The prisoners, after being stripped, are to be ordered into the bath, if labouring under no complaint which may render that improper. Their hair is then to be cut close; or if necessary, for the sake of cleanliness, or as a punishment for old offenders, to be shaved. They are then to be equipped in the uniform of the house; and, after being inspected by the surgeon, are either to be set to work in terms of the warrants of commitment, or, if their case requires, ordered to the sick ward.

III. In cases where prisoners are committed under sentences adjudging them to hard labour, it shall be in the power of the governor to set them to such work as he may consider them best suited to perform—due regard being had to age and sex.

IV. No corporal punishment is to be inflicted, without a special warrant in writing from a justice of peace, or other magistrate or magistrates: But in order to preserve subordination, the governor shall have a discretionary power to punish such as refuse to work, or are otherwise disobedient or refractory, by depriving them of some part of their ordinary allowance of victuals, putting them in the dark cell, keeping them on bread and water, or by putting in irons.

V. Upon the good behaviour and obedience of prisoners, the governor is empowered to recommend a mitigation of their sentences and punishments, which will be duly considered by the quarter sessions.

VI. A separate account is to be opened by the governor for each prisoner, to the debit of which, is to be posted the expense of maintenance; and to the credit, the produce of earnings, as the same shall be fixed by the Commissioners. If the earnings exceed the maintenance, the balance is to be paid to the prisoner by two instalments; the first when liberated, either to the prisoner, or to his or her relations, as the Commissioners may direct; and the second in six months afterwards, if not sooner forfeited by the prisoner's misconduct or re-committal: And in order to entitle prisoners, or their relations, to payment of the second instalment, they shall be obliged to produce a certificate of good behaviour, signed by a justice of peace or minister. If the maintenance exceeds the earnings, the balance will be carried to the debit of the establishment.

VII. Magistrates and justices of peace, acting for the county of Aberdeen, and those parts of the county of Banff comprehended in the Bridewell Act, are empowered to visit the house, and examine into the situation of the prisoners, and every circumstance connected with the internal management of the house at all times: But no other person shall be permitted to visit or hold conference with any of the prisoners, without an order from the magistrate by whom they were committed, or from one of the Commissioners, or visiting justices or sheriff; nor are the friends or relations of the prisoners to be allowed to supply them with provisions of any kind. This regulation, however, is not to extend to the exclusion of clergymen who may visit the prisoners for religious purposes.

VIII. Every prisoner in health shall be obliged to use the bath once a week: And such as by their orderly conduct merit the indulgence, shall be permitted to take the air for about an hour each Saturday afternoon, or oftener, in the garden, or outer courts of the Bridewell, under charge of the turnkey.

IX. The governor shall have power either to oblige each prisoner to clean and keep in order his or her own cell, or to appoint some of the most trusty and well-behaved for that purpose, and for cooking, washing, and cleaning the house. The governor shall also have power to appoint some one of the most orderly prisoners, both male and female, for superintending the work of the others.

X. Male and female prisoners are, on every occasion, to be kept separate and distinct; and to be prevented from holding any communication whatever with each other.

XI. The prisoners, unless such as have a sufficient excuse for absence, are regularly to attend Divine Service on each Lord's Day; and any one convicted of improper or disorderly conduct on those occasions shall be subjected to such punishment, in addition to that inflicted by the warrants of commitment, as the Commissioners, or any of their number, may direct—The governor is also to attend Divine Service, and to see that the conduct of the prisoners is proper and correct.

XII. No wine, spirituous liquors, porter or ale, or drink of any kind, excepting such as is allowed for the ordinary maintenance of the prisoners, or for medicinal purposes, by order of the surgeon, shall be sold, used, or permitted, within the house, under the penalty contained in the Act of Parliament 24 Geo. II. an abstract of which is hereto subjoined, for the guidance and information of all concerned.

XIII. In summer, the prisoners shall be set to work at six; and in winter, at seven in the morning; breakfast at nine; dine at two; and sup at eight: after which they are to be locked up in their sleeping cells.

XIV. If any prisoner complains of sickness, the same is to be immediately reported to the surgeon, who may order him or her to the sick ward. A book is to be kept, in which the names of the sick, dates of their commitment to the sick ward, and nature of complaints, are to be entered.

1810, January 6th.—The Commissioners, at their periodical meetings, shall visit and inspect the different prisoners, in order to enable them to inquire into, and redress, if necessary, any complaint against their mode of treatment, their work, and their maintenance. The governor shall also attend the Commissioners at such inspection, and receive any directions respecting the prisoners, which may be deemed necessary.

1810, May 3d.—The Commissioners, in order to preserve proper subordination and order in the house, hereby direct that no person or persons be admitted to Bridewell on the Lord's Day, without an express order or warrant in writing from one of the Commissioners.

(36.)—ACCOUNT of the Regulations and general Management of the Bridewell of Aberdeen, made up by James Watson, Governor, in obedience to an Order, dated 9th March 1818, made by the Committee of the Honourable the House of Commons, appointed to inspect Prisons; with a Plan of the Prison.

Annual Assessments.

Money to be borrowed on the credit of assessments.

THE whole annual assessment raised for the Bridewell amounts to £.1,209. 13*s.* 1*d.* The Act of the 48th of the King authorizes money to be borrowed to the extent of £.12,000 Sterling, and under that authority funds were raised for the original construction of the building, and a considerable proportion of them by voluntary contribution.

Building completed in 1809.

Abstract of Act, and of Vagrant Act.

Forms of commitment pointed out.

Regulation as to internal management.

The building was finished in the Autumn of 1809; but before any commitments took place the Commissioners laid before the justices of peace and magistrates an abstract of the provisions of the statute above-mentioned, and of other public statutes, in so far as they related to the commitment and punishment of that description of delinquents principally falling under the cognizance of those more immediately connected with preserving the good order and police of the county. The abstract thus published also contained the forms of warrants of commitment. Bye-laws were likewise established by the Commissioners, and particular instructions issued to the governor for the regulation of his conduct. With a view also of checking every abuse which might occur in the management of the Institution, the abstract published and circulated among the justices contained a paragraph to the following effect:—" In order that all abuses which may arise in the management and internal " economy of Bridwell may be immediately checked, the Commissioners would request of " every justice inspecting the house to call for the Instructions and Memorandum Book, " kept by the governor, in order that their remarks may be therein stated, and submitted " to the Commissioners, who will always feel it their duty to give them their earliest " attention."

Reference to printed copy of Bye-laws.

A copy of the abstract thus circulated is herewith submitted, along with a printed copy of the Bye-laws established by the Commissioners; and the following are the Instructions issued by the Commissioners to the governor, under which he has endeavoured to regulate his conduct in the management of this Institution.

Instructions to the Governor.

1st. The governor is to pay the strictest obedience to the Bye-laws and Regulations already established or to be established by the Commissioners, and which are to be held and considered by him as forming part of these instructions.

2nd. When prisoners are brought to Bridewell for commitment, the governor is to see that the warrants are regularly signed by a magistrate; and each warrant is to be accurately numbered, quoted up, and carefully deposited, keeping the warrants of each year in masses by themselves.

N° 6.
ABERDEEN
BRIDEWELL.

Instructions to the Governor.

3d. The Commissioners having delivered to the governor a set of such books as are deemed necessary for the Establishment, the same are to be regularly kept, and entries fairly made therein each night, or once a week. These books, with the whole warrants and other papers in the custody of the governor, connected with Bridewell, shall be at all times open to the inspection of the Commissioners, or to any justice of peace visiting the house.

4th. The utmost care and attention must be constantly paid by the governor to the cleanliness of the prisoners, and also to the cleanliness of the whole house. The working and sleeping cells and passages must be regularly swept out and cleaned every morning; and when the prisoners leave their cells, the windows and doors will be opened for the purpose of admitting a free circulation of air. Particular attention is also to be paid to the cleanliness of the privies, and to the cleaning out of the cess-pool, when necessary.

5th. The hours at which the prisoners are to begin and end their work, and to receive their diets, are stated in the Bye-laws and Regulations. The governor is to see that each prisoner receives regular diets; he is also to see that the prisoners are locked up at night, and is occasionally to inspect them in the working cells, in order to prevent idleness and bad work.

6th. At all times when the governor is necessarily absent from the house, it must be left under the care of the turnkey, for whom the governor must be completely responsible; the governor is also to be responsible for the whole servants employed by him in the management of Bridewell.

7th. If any magistrate or justice visiting the Bridewell, shall offer any remarks on the mode of managing the prisoners, or on any other circumstance connected with the internal economy of the Institution, the governor shall request such justice to state the same in writing in a memorandum book, to be kept for that purpose, which shall be laid before the next monthly meeting of the Commissioners; and if such remarks are not inconsistent with the Bye-laws, or with these Rules and Instructions, the same shall be immediately attended to by the governor and his servants. And the governor shall regularly lay the memorandum book before each monthly meeting of the Commissioners. A memorandum book is accordingly delivered to the governor, which he is to show to every visiting magistrate.

8th. No money is to be asked or received on any pretence whatever, by the governor or his servants, prisoners, or any other person in Bridewell, from magistrates, justices, or others visiting the same.

9th. The whole books and accounts kept by the governor are to be made up and regularly brought to a balance once in every six months.

10th. 6th January 1810: With a view of preserving good order, and preventing any combination among the prisoners to escape, the governor and his assistants are hereby strictly enjoined, on all occasions, when it may be necessary to remove any of the prisoners from the sleeping to the working cells, or to any other part of the house, to remove them separately, and one by one; and on no account shall the doors of the cells in which any other prisoners may be confined, be left open during the time of such removal.

11th. 20th October 1815: The Commissioners direct, that the payment of any balance arising on the prisoners work, be made to those only who have been but once committed, and whose conduct has been most unexceptionable; and with respect to others who may have been more than once committed, or whose conduct has not been strictly correct while in the house, the governor shall make payment only agreeably to an order sanctioned by one or more Commissioners, or their clerk.

The Commissioners also direct, that the governor shall be authorized to charge from the prisoners from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per month for body and bed-clothes, in place of the present charge. And the Commissioners also direct, that those prisoners who require light, and whose work can afford it, are only to have it.

Plan of Building, by Mr. J. Burn. See Plate I. and II.

Extent of Area, and situation of Building.

Accommodation for Prisoners, &c.

The building was constructed from a plan made by Mr. James Burn, architect in Edinburgh, and a copy of it, on a reduced scale, will be found subjoined to this Report. The ground on which the building is situated consists of two acres, Scotch measure, surrounded with a wall of sufficient height, having a guard-house and porter's lodge at the front approach. The situation is extremely dry, well exposed, and considered one of the most healthy in the immediate vicinity of the town, having at the same time an abundant supply of excellent water. The front, or jail part of the house, contains accommodation for 54 prisoners, each having a sleeping and working cell. The highest floor contains two large Lazarettos or sick wards. The governor's apartments are in the back part of the building, and above these are a committee room for the monthly meetings of the Commissioners, a chapel for divine worship, and other apartments requisite for the Establishment. There is also a room for the use of the surgeon when occasionally visiting the house.

Clothing of prisoners.

The clothing of the prisoners is provided at the expense of the Institution, and a trifling deduction made from their earnings for the use of the clothing. Each prisoner, on his admission into the house, is provided with a suit of clothes, which is taken from him at his liberation,

N° 6.
ABERDEEN
BRIDEWELL.

liberation, and his own clothes returned to him. The dormitories, which are calculated for one person each, and which are entirely separate from their day or working cells, are each supplied with a bedstead of maleable iron, a straw mattrass, a binder, two sheets, two blankets, and a coverlet.

Food of prisoners.

The feeding of the prisoners is contracted for and supplied by the governor, on the terms, and according to the following dietary, as established and approved of by the Commissioners:—

First Class, or two Meals per day, 2*s.* 4*d.* per week.

Dietary.

Breakfast.—1 Chopin [quart] oatmeal pottage, and a mutchkin [pint English] of butter-milk or ale.
Dinner.—3 mutchkins soup, and one halfpenny worth of flour bread.

Second Class, or three Meals per day, 2*s.* 7½*d.* per week.

Breakfast.—1 chopin oatmeal pottage, and a mutchkin of butter-milk or ale.
Dinner.—3 mutchkins soup, and one halfpenny worth of flour bread.
Supper.—1 mutchkin of butter-milk or ale, and one halfpenny worth of flour bread.

Third Class, or three Meals per day, with additional Bread, 2*s.* 11*d.* per week.

Breakfast.—1 Chopin oatmeal pottage, and a mutchkin of butter-milk or ale.
Dinner.—3 mutchkins soup, and one halfpenny worth of flour bread.
Supper.—1 mutchkin of butter-milk or ale, and one penny worth of flour bread.

Fourth Class, or three Meals per day, with additional Bread, 3*s.* 2½*d.* per week.

Breakfast.—1 chopin oatmeal pottage, and a mutchkin of butter-milk or ale.
Dinner.—3 mutchkins soup, and one penny worth of flour bread.
Supper.—1 mutchkin of butter-milk or ale, and one penny worth of flour bread.
Variation.—Beef-soup on Sundays—Fish occasionally.

Proceeds of prisoners earnings, how applied.

The proceeds of the prisoners labour are applied in payment of their maintenance, and a regular account is opened and kept by the governor with each prisoner, and balanced at the period of liberation. The balance, if in favour of the prisoner, is applied as directed by the instructions of the Commissioners, and if against him, is carried to the debit of the Institution.

Work of prisoners.

Monthly reports made up.

It is also the business of the governor to find work for the prisoners, either from his own manufacture, or otherwise; and implements for various kinds of work are provided and fitted up in the house; the governor having it in his power to set them to such work as he may consider them best suited to perform; and where it is necessary to give previous instructions, proper persons are employed for that purpose, to whom a suitable gratification is given from the funds of the Establishment. For the information of the Magistrates and Commissioners, the governor makes up, to be laid before them at their monthly meetings, a Report of the state of the Bridewell, showing the numbers confined, how employed, cause of commitment, liberations, and general state of accounts, a copy of the Monthly Report for February is herewith submitted.

Governor's accounts made up annually.

General Accounts of the Establishment, also made up annually.

The governor's accounts with the Institution have been regularly brought up, balanced and audited by the Commissioners every year. The general accounts of the Institution have also been regularly brought up at the annual statutory period, and copies regularly lodged with the town and justice of peace clerks, as required by the Acts. The amount of debt now affecting the Institution, including 4,770*l.* of subscriptions, is about 8,000*l.* sterling. The salaries payable to officers employed in the Institution, are as follow:

Officers employed, and their salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Governor, including the expense of turnkeys and servants employed by him - - - - - - - -	160	—	—
The governor has besides, the garden rent-free.			
Clerk and Treasurer - - - - -	35	—	—
Surgeon - - - - - - - - -	21	—	—
Chaplain - - - - - - - - -	10	10	—
	£. 226	10	—
There are besides annual payments for feu-duty, or ground-rent of the area of the house and garden - - - -	25	—	—
Insurance - - - - - - - - -	2	5	—
	£. 253	15	—

Balance of Assessment, how applied.

The balance of the annual assessment is applied towards the other expenses of the Establishment, and interest of debts and subscriptions, and any overplus carried to the extinction of these last. The labour and work of the prisoners has hitherto fallen considerably short of the expense of their maintenance.

The surgeon attends regularly when there are cases of sickness in the house, or when called.

A chaplain also attends every Lord's Day for the purpose of giving the prisoners religious instructions. They are all obliged to attend in the chapel, if not prevented by sickness; and the governor is directed to attend divine service, to see that the conduct of the prisoners is proper and correct. The chapel is divided by a screen, so as to make a separation between male and female prisoners.

Guard stationed at Bridewell.

A guard is stationed in the guard-house at the front door; and a sentry is always on watch at the house.

Employment of Prisoners.

In addition to what is before stated on the subject of the work and employment for the prisoners, the governor begs leave to report, that such employment is principally confined to the picking of oakum, a species of work requiring no previous instruction. Spinning wheels are given to such of the women as have been accustomed to that sort of work; and weaving looms, of a size and description suited to the dimensions of the working cells, have also been introduced. On the whole, however, it has not been found, that the value of the work is equal to the expenses of the prisoners maintenance, excepting in cases where their previous habits have afforded them sufficient instruction.

The foregoing account is humbly submitted by

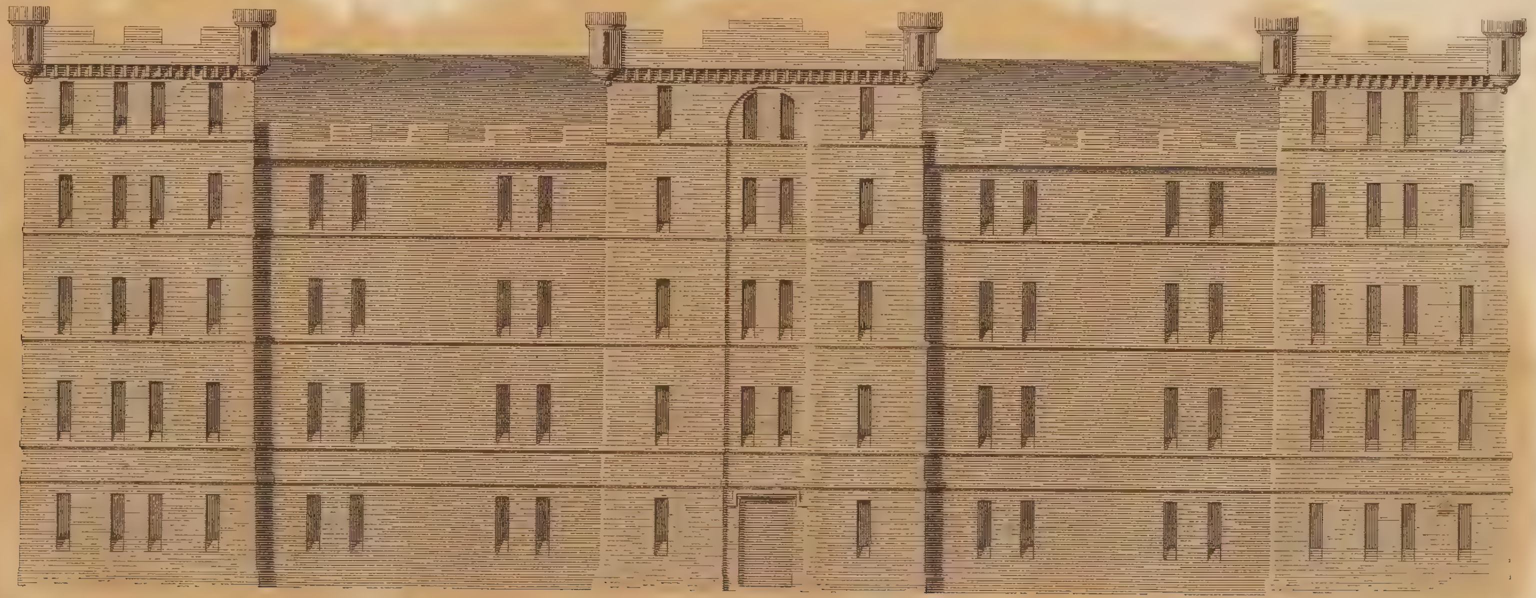
James Watson, Governor.

EXPLANATION of the Plan.—See Plates I. and II.

THE Building consists of four arched floors, each containing fourteen sleeping cells' thirteen working cells, and a dark cell, as shown by the Plan. In the upper floors of the end buildings are two infirmaries, and three cells in the centre building, with sleeping rooms for the sick in the roof. In the basement floor of the back building is a kitchen, bath, and cellars, &c. The ground floor is laid out for the accommodation of the Governor, as shown. On the first floor, is a committee room and a closet; on second floor, a chapel and closet; on third floor, a physician's room, and other apartments; and on fourth floor, are rooms for keeping wrought materials, &c.

FRONT ELEVATION OF THE BRIDEWELL OF ABERDEEN.

James Burn, Arch^t.

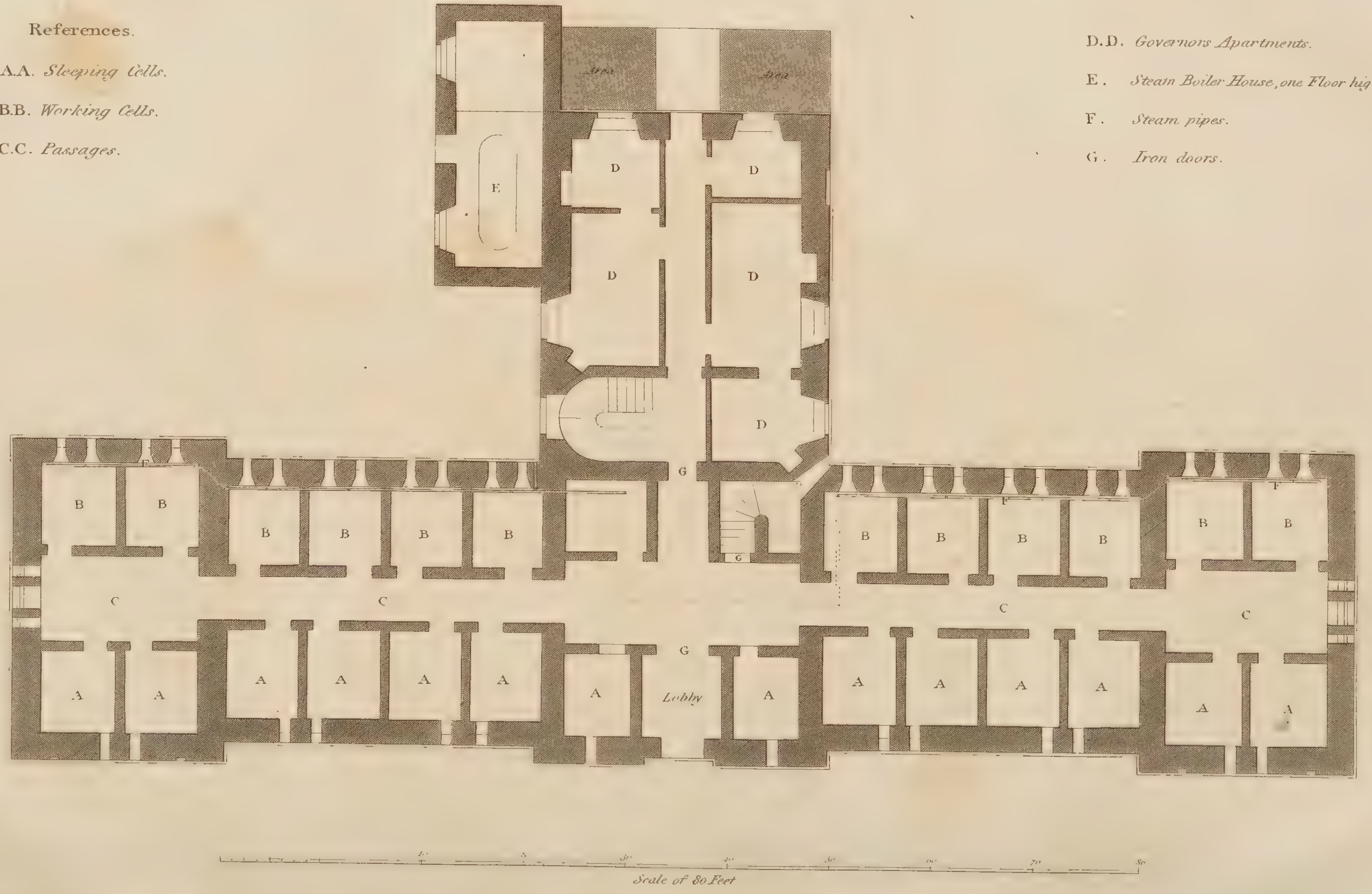


PLAN OF GROUND FLOOR, OF THE BRIDEWELL OF ABERDEEN.

References.

A.A. *Sleeping Cells.*
B.B. *Working Cells.*
C.C. *Passages.*

D.D. *Governors Apartments.*
E. *Steam Boiler House, one Floor high.*
F. *Steam pipes.*
G. *Iron doors.*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SECOND

REPORT

FROM THE COMMITTEE ON

THE

PRISONS

WITHIN THE CITY OF LONDON AND BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK.

2. GILTSPUR-STREET PRISON.
3. WHITECROSS-STREET PRISON.
4. BOROUGH COMPTER.
5. BRIDEWELL.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
1 *June* 1818.

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SECOND

REPORT.

THE COMMITTEE appointed to examine into the state of *Newgate*, and the other PRISONS within the City of *London* and the Borough of *Southwark*, and to report their Observations, together with the MINUTES OF THE EVIDENCE taken before them, from time to time, to The House; and to whom the Petition of the Prisoners for Debt in Whitecross-Street Prison was referred; and who were instructed to inquire into the state of *Dartmoor* Prison, and to report whether it is capable of receiving Convicts;——HAVE further examined the Matters to them referred; and agreed upon the following REPORT:

2.—GILTSPUR-STREET PRISON.

THE GILTSPUR-STREET PRISON, until the end of the year 1815, was denominated *The Giltspur-Street Compter*, for debtors and delinquents apprehended in the city of London, connected with the *Ludgate Prison*, solely for debtors who are freemen of the City, and both were exclusively, as the prison now is, for commitments within the jurisdiction of the City. On the removal of the debtors to Whitecross-Street, that part of the prison, formerly occupied by such persons, was converted into a house of correction for those sentenced to hard labour for felonies, and also a place of confinement for those guilty of assaults and misdemeanors.

The objects of Police, for which this prison is now set apart, are three:—1st. For the reception of what are called *night charges*; that is, all disorderly persons apprehended and lodged there for the night in a lock-up room; and such persons are regularly reported to the magistrates every morning. 2d. For the detention of accused persons until examination, or who are remanded for farther examination; or for vagrants, either natives whose place of settlement cannot be immediately ascertained, or foreigners apprehended in the City, of which latter description this prison, in the two preceding years, has received and relieved a very great number. 3d. What is called the House of Correction, where those sentenced to hard labour are confined, and those committed for assaults and misdemeanors. The first head refers merely to a receiving room, similar to a watch-house or other place of nocturnal detention, and requires no particular notice as peculiar to the establishment of a prison. The second head, however, is of a very different character, and must be more minutely described. Under this head, that part of the prison appropriated to accused persons and vagrants, is divided so as to give distinct accommodation for males and females; and also, if the prison is not crowded, affording means of separating men from boys. This part it is understood was built on a plan suggested by Mr. Howard.

There are two rows of cells; each cell measuring eight feet by seven, and opening in opposite directions into two narrow yards; these two rows of cells are separated by a narrow passage, which runs through the centre

2. Giltspur-Street Prison.

of the building: and by a partition in the middle of this passage, which partition is so built as to admit of a fire-place on each side; it is converted into what are termed two day rooms, each 24 feet long and 4 feet wide. From these day rooms there is a grated communication with each cell, for the admission of air and warmth; and as a fire is kept in each day room, it was expected that by means of these grated communications, cold and damp would be materially lessened, or altogether obviated. The cells are paved with stone; and in each there is a wooden bedstead, on which is laid a tick bed stuffed with straw, with rugs, which are supplied according to the number confined, and the season of the year.

On this part of the prison Your Committee cannot make a favourable report:—what are termed day rooms are not rooms at all, as their dimensions demonstrate; they are long narrow dark passages, with a fire-place at the end; to which fire-place it is obvious, as the passage is only four feet wide, not above two or three of the prisoners can have access at one time; it has already been stated, that the cells are paved with stone, hence they are cold and damp, for the moisture rises in wet weather, as even the keeper's house is liable to damp. But it is our duty to remark, that, from a mistaken regulation for cleanliness, these stone floors are washed every morning, so that the damp is secured by the consequent slow evaporation. The yards besides are not paved with flag stones, with a proper slope to carry off water, but with ill-laid paving stones, in the open interstices of which water lodges at all times, when the yards are washed, and are seldom dry in the winter season. As far as regards the cells, the heat in the day rooms cannot operate very beneficially through the apertures; as such a degree of heat can only tend to raise the damp into vapour, which must again be condensed, and lodge on the walls and bedding. The persons confined in this part of the prison are generally not convicted, or under punishment, and therefore cells appear unnecessary; and the sudden transition from heat to cold, suffered by those committed to such cells, Your Committee consider as injurious to health; and even were it not so, it infers a degree of punishment not warranted by the circumstances in which those so confined are placed. Your Committee therefore are decidedly of opinion, that these cells should be pulled down, and a building raised to the height of the boundary wall of the Prison, occupying less ground space, and consequently leaving more spacious airing yards; and in such a proposed building, wards might be provided for the various descriptions of prisoners, and thus obviate the evils which the present arrangement forces on the notice of Your Committee.

House of Correction.

In this part of the building (as it was originally and at no distant period constructed for debtors) the rooms are of an excellent description, light and well aired. But as the prison was not intended for a House of Correction, the largeness of the wards and want of separation and discrimination renders it not well suited for that purpose. Classification is altogether impracticable, except by having recourse to a range of small rooms in front of the prison, where persons of less criminal habits may be singled from the others. On the 9th of May there were confined in this prison seventy-two persons. In the House of Correction thirty-eight males and fourteen females, and in the Giltspur side, committed on charges of assault, &c. fifteen males and five females, in all seventy-two persons; certainly not a large proportion of offenders, and for such a number there can be no want of accommodation.

Food.

2. Giltspur-Street Prison.

Food.

The prison allowance of food is the same as that allotted to Newgate, excepting that an additional half-pound of bread has been given to those who work at the mill, since the hours of working have been increased. In consistency, therefore, with the opinion which Your Committee have ventured to give as to the allowance of food in Newgate, they cannot disapprove of the dietary stated in the evidence of Mr. Teague, the keeper, especially as an additional allowance is given to those who labour.

Clothing and Cleanliness.

The whole of these buildings are kept remarkably clean. The yards, stairs and floors are regularly washed, and the walls frequently scraped and white-washed; and on the women's side of the House of Correction, there is an excellent washing-house, laundry and other conveniences, well arranged and in good order. In that part of the prison appropriated for the reception of charges, and those remanded for examination, the same attention to personal cleanliness is impracticable; although there, also, exertions are made for that purpose, and on many occasions, the rags of the persons committed are burnt, and clothing provided. In the House of Correction, as soon as possible after commitments, the prisoners are examined by the surgeon, but frequently not before having been mixed with the other prisoners, and are washed, and prison clothes given to them; if, however, they prefer wearing their own clothes, it is permitted. As this part of the prison is correctional, it might, perhaps, contribute to the desirable effects, that a marked dress should not be dispensed with; it would, besides, afford a greater security against infection, and promote cleanliness.

Bedding.

All the prisoners in Giltspur-street prison are provided with wooden bedsteads in the cells appropriated for charges, and those for re-examination and vagrants; two, and sometimes three, sleep in one bed, but the latter, however, occurs very rarely. In the House of Correction, each prisoner has a separate bed, though all the beds nearly join each other, and numbers sleep in the same room. The bedding consists of a tick palliass, stuffed with straw, placed on canvass; and for covering, two rugs, or three, according to the season of the year; but the prisoners are occasionally allowed to bring their own bedding into the wards, which is an indulgence, the propriety of which may be questioned.

Treatment.

Mr. Teague, the present keeper, seems to exert himself to do his duty in regulating the arrangements of the prison; for the state of the Cells he cannot be accountable, but in the House of Correction there seems to be no unnecessary severity; perhaps as a correctional establishment there may be too much indulgence. The prisoners are allowed to receive food brought in by their friends, and in the intervals of their work are allowed to converse with the strangers who visit them. It certainly would increase the punishment, and not increase it beyond what is the legitimate object, to restrict those condemned to hard labour to the prison allowance (taking care that such allowance is adequate for those subjected to such labour) and the prevention of free intercourse with those from without, would also render the punishment more impressive. It has, however, been urged, that

2. Giltspur-Street Prison.

that such severity would render the prisoners sulky, and induce other bad consequences; this, therefore, is a practical regulation which ought to rest with the magistrates, who will use their sound discretion.

Employment.

The observations on this head can only apply to the House of Correction; the others, for obvious reasons, have no employment. It appears that there has been a difficulty in devising employment for the prisoners, and until the flour mill was erected in name of hard labour, they were chiefly employed in picking oakum. The mill affords employment for sixteen men; it requires eight men to work the mill, and they labour and are relieved for twenty minutes, alternately, during the working hours. For the first three months after the erection of the present improved mill, the men worked six hours by alternate spells, namely, from nine to twelve, and from one to four; the number of hours is now increased, and they work by alternate spells, from seven in the morning till five in the afternoon, including half an hour for breakfast, and an hour for dinner. They formerly ground from seven to eight bushels per day; they now grind from eleven to twelve bushels. A few individuals are employed as carpenters, tailors, and shoemakers; and all who work are allowed a small proportion of their earnings. Some individuals not of a robust frame or constitution are not employed at the mill; it appears to Your Committee that means should be resorted to, to find work for prisoners of this description.

Infirmary.

There is an infirmary for the male prisoners and another ward for the female prisoners; the one on the Giltspur side, the other on the Ludgate; but there is only one nurse. On the female side a prisoner is generally so employed. In the evidence of Mr. Box, the surgeon, he suggests that the opposite ward to what is properly called the infirmary, where males are received, and where the nurse sleeps, should be allotted as an infirmary instead of the ward on the opposite side of the prison. This arrangement appears to promise more convenience, as in the absence of the surgeon both wards would more immediately be under the eye of the nurse; although at present less conveniently placed, the accommodation is sufficient, and the surgeon has authority to order whatever food or cordials he thinks necessary for the sick. Mr. Box, who is surgeon of Newgate, is also surgeon of this prison; and his successful attention is also manifested here; for on the 9th of May there was not one patient in the infirmaries, although seventy-two were in confinement.

The Bakehouse.

It may be proper to notice this part of the establishment, as from hence bread is supplied not only for Giltspur-street prison, but also for Newgate. The baker is a regular-bred tradesman of long experience, and he is assisted by two of the prisoners who had been bred to this occupation. The bread is of unexceptionable quality; the flour used, is now wholly ground in the prison, from wheat purchased by a respectable cornfactor for the corporation. Previous to the establishment of this bakehouse, frequent complaints were made respecting the contract bread furnished to Newgate; but since the present system was adopted, it appears to Your Committee, that there has been no ground of complaint, with the exception of one batch early in the month of January, which was bad; and this was owing to the brewer who supplied the prison with yeast, having, on that

occasion,

2.
Giltspur-Street Prison.

occasion, supplied it of a weak and insufficient description, in consequence of which the bread did not rise. For such conduct, that brewer was dismissed from employment; and it may be remarked, that as a batch is baked every day, the prisoners could have had this heavy bread only once to complain of.

Your Committee having thus reported on each distinct head, in conclusion may observe, that although, strictly speaking, they cannot consider the construction of what was the Ludgate prison, as that most suitable for a house of correction, yet they must report it, as their opinion, that it is airy, healthful and well managed. As to the Giltspur side, after what they have deemed it their duty to state, with respect to the cells in that part of the prison, they have only to repeat, it is the opinion of Your Committee, that an alteration should be made, and they have no doubt the Court of Aldermen will take the suggestion into their serious consideration.

3.—WHITECROSS-STREET PRISON.

3.
Whitecross-street Prison.

This Prison is set apart for Debtors, and has three distinct divisions. Ludgate side, for those who are freemen of the city of London, and who, on commitment, produce a certificate (called a Doucee) of their being freemen; London side, for all other debtors arrested within the jurisdiction of the city, including such freemen as, at the time of arrest, neglect to procure a doucee; and Middlesex side, the third and largest division, for those arrested in the county. There is, however, a separate division for all females, whether of the city or county; and persons by warrants from the Court of Requests of the city and Court of Requests of the county, are likewise committed to this prison.

Difference of opinion may exist as to the allotment and arrangement of prisons, according to the views of those who visit them; Your Committee however must express it as their opinion, generally, that as far as they can judge, the prisoners here have no just ground for complaint, but, in many respects, the reverse.

That imprisonment, even in the case of debtors, should be productive of discomfort, is a circumstance that cannot be avoided. It is, in their case, a penalty for improvidence, and sometimes for dishonesty; and if misfortune has a share, it may be lamented, but human prudence cannot devise a perfectly discriminative system. In this prison, however, there is provision made, at the expense of the city of London, for the absolute wants of those confined, by an allowance of food and fuel beyond what is distributed (it is believed) in any prison of the kingdom. This allowance of bread and meat is given to all who produce a certificate that they are poor. The consequence is, that almost all have obtained such certificates. Your Committee however doubt the propriety of a rule which may be painful to some individuals to comply with, but which, at the same time, can be easily evaded, so that the object of the regulation is completely frustrated. Certain divisions of the prison have peculiar benefits, but these are derived from donations and bequests. The prisoners have complained of the regulations of the prison; they complain of restraints as to the hours when strangers are admitted, and of their being excluded from their bed rooms during the day. On such points, unless manifestly oppressive, Your Committee avoid interfering. The regulations for the good government of the prison, must rest with those who are responsible; but as these points have been forced on the notice of Your Committee, in justice to the

magistrates

3. Whitecross-street Prison.

magistrates they can state, that the regulations, as approved by the Judges, seem framed with a view to health, and to morality, and seem necessary and salutary; and the indulgencies as great as are consistent with the internal regularity of such a place of confinement.

One improvement has been suggested, which would be conducive to better order and to cleanliness. It appears, that on an average from forty-five to fifty persons inhabit each day-room; and at the common fire of each ward, all the victuals of those persons are cooked, and can be cooked no where else within the walls of the prison. Had a suitable kitchen been originally provided for each division of the prison, to which the prisoners might have had access, Your Committee would have recommended that cooking in the wards should be forbidden. The Court of Aldermen have agreed to a report from the gaol committee of magistrates, that a general kitchen should be made under the chapel; an oven to be built, and several large coppers fixed. Your Committee confidently look forward to a material and most desirable change of this part of the internal economy of the prison.

Although the keeper and the turnkeys exert themselves to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors into the prison, yet where there are so many females daily admitted, and there is no female searcher but the nurse (who is so employed when there is suspicion) it is not to be supposed that such an irregularity can be altogether prevented, and it may be worthy of the attention of the gaol committee to establish a more efficient check.

The infirmary, with the late improvements and addition, is now, by the evidence of the surgeon, amply sufficient in accommodation. It is particularly gratifying to Your Committee, to find that the surgeons appointed to the city prisons are so conscientiously attentive to their duty; a favourable report has already been made of the conduct and successful services of Mr. Box, the surgeon of Newgate and Giltspur-street Compter, and it is with real satisfaction they bear a similar testimony in favour of Mr. Wadd, the surgeon of Whitecross-street.

The under-keeper, Mr. Thacker, who in the interim has acted as keeper, has apparently conducted himself with moderation and firmness; and there is no well-grounded complaint made against any part of his conduct.

It has been stated, that prisoners confined for small debts are committed to this prison from the Courts of the county and city. The keeper is authorized to receive the amount of debt and costs from the county prisoners, and thereupon, provided no detainer has been lodged at the prison, immediately to liberate; but a debtor committed by a warrant from the Court of Requests of the city, from the practice of the gaol, cannot obtain his liberation, until he procures what is termed a Scrutatus, which is a certificate signed by the clerk in the Secondaries office, by the clerk of the Giltspur-street, and by the clerk of the Poultry Compter, vouching that no detainers have been lodged against him in any of these three offices. This form is of itself a grievance where the debts are so trivial; and an impression having existed in the prison, that no prisoner, not even a Court of Conscience debtor could obtain a scrutatus out of office hours, or on a holiday, without paying a fee of 12*s.* 6*d.* many individuals have remained in prison for several days, after compromising with their creditors, or after the term of their sentence has expired.

The removal of debtors from Newgate and Giltspur-street to a prison appropriated to such persons exclusively, was a most wise and beneficial arrangement; and it appears to Your Committee, that this excellent distinction

tinction of prisoners should be carried as far as circumstances may permit, so that a separate prison may be assigned for each distinct class.

3. Whitecross-street Prison.

Your Committee may conclude their remarks upon Whitecross-street prison, by expressing it as their opinion, that the wards and yards are large, airy and healthful, as places of confinement; that the food, gratuitously provided by the liberality of the city of London, is of excellent quality, and the general treatment as indulgent as reasonably can be expected or required; and that many circumstances concur in this prison to alleviate the rigours of confinement.

4.—BOROUGH COMPTER.

4. Borough Compter.

Although the jurisdiction of the city of London over a part of Southwark was established and confirmed by ancient charters, yet as the Court of Aldermen, for a long period, did not exercise their jurisdiction to the extent they were entitled to by these charters, the Borough Compter, although a very mean and confined prison, was perhaps, according to the ideas as to prisons formerly entertained, sufficient for the purposes to which it was applied, as few prisoners were there confined; but as the Court of Aldermen, at the request of the inhabitants, have lately appointed a resident City Magistrate to act and hold courts within the limits of their ancient jurisdiction on that side of the river, various descriptions of persons are now committed to that Compter, which were formerly committed elsewhere; hence the prison is now totally inadequate for its purposes.

The prison, in its present exceptionable state, is divided into two parts, one for male felons tried and untried, the other for all other descriptions of prisoners; on what is called the felons side, there is a small yard, about 12 feet square, a small day room, 14 feet by 10, and two sleeping cells, each fit to receive two prisoners; and above these apartments two sleeping cells, each fit to receive three persons, and two others each of which is fit to receive two persons, so that there is accommodation for only fourteen; but as the two lower cells are the only places in the prison for the reception of night charges, to which purpose they are generally applied, there is, in fact, only accommodation for ten. On the other side, where all descriptions of prisoners, debtors, those convicted of assaults and misdemeanors, vagrants and disorderly persons, are indiscriminately mingled (the women, however, separated from the men during the night) there is a yard 19 feet square, which is the only airing yard for all the prisoners, and in that yard one privy for males and females. There are four chambers, two below on a level with the pavement, and two above. That on the left of the entrance below is for males, and measures 23 feet in length, by 10 feet in breadth, having, at right angles, a smaller chamber or recess for an eating room; and immediately above this chamber, there is a similar one, with a similar recess; in both of these a platform, 6 feet broad, runs the lengthway of the room, for the prisoners beds; opposite to these chambers, appropriated to the males below and above, are two smaller rooms in which the females are confined; these are 24 feet long and 10 feet wide, and the platforms for the beds run across the ends, leaving a space for a table and other furniture. In these two chambers last mentioned, all descriptions of female prisoners are confined. From this statement, therefore, it appears, that allowing three feet of width for each prisoner's bed, the male wards might contain about sixteen persons, and the female wards six, in all twenty-two; add to these, ten felons, the total is thirty-two; yet it appears by the evidence of Mr. Law, the keeper,

4. Borough Compter.

keeper, that ninety-four persons have been confined at one time in this compter, and on the debtors side above sixty persons had only this yard for air and exercise. When Your Committee visited the prison, the number confined was fifty-one.

Although Your Committee are of opinion, that the complaints against this compter have been in some parts of the evidence overcharged, yet disregarding all exaggeration, they cannot too strongly reprobate so inadequate an establishment; they are only restrained from expressing their sentiments in the most decided manner, by the information laid before them in evidence, that the magistrates have been most anxious to improve and enlarge the prison; and that Mr. Alderman Wood, when lord mayor in 1816, called the attention of the court of Common Council to its improper state, but that from the different opinions existing in the court on the selection of the fund from which the expenses should be defrayed, no arrangement was agreed upon. That in consequence of this delay, in 1817 Mr. Alderman Wood again brought forward the consideration of the subject before the Common Council, when it was referred to a committee, but notwithstanding the appointment of that committee, no steps were taken for any improvements; but since Your Committee visited the Compter, the Common Council have resolved to appropriate a house adjoining the prison, for additional accommodation, and inclose a considerable space with a wall, so as to afford airing ground for the prisoners; and also to erect additional buildings so as to admit of classification; the whole at an estimated expense of £. 5,500, and the sacrifice of a rental of £. 70 per annum.

It is with satisfaction, mingled with surprise, that Your Committee have ascertained, that amidst such crowding and mixing of all descriptions, whether diseased or not, the general health of the prisoners has not been materially affected; fortunately no typhus or other malignant or contagious Fever arose or was carried into the prison, otherwise, as there is no infirmary, the result must have been most lamentable. When the projected additions are made, it is the hope of Your Committee, that not only more room will be afforded, but the means of better arrangement, and of some regard to classification, which from the utter inadequacy of the prison, has hitherto been altogether impracticable,

5.—BRIDEWELL

5. Bridewell.

IS one of three hospitals named in a charter of Edward the Sixth, by which he granted to the corporation of London the manor and messuage of Bridewell, with appurtenances and privileges, for the purpose of maintaining those hospitals instituted for the education and relief of the poor; for the cure of the sick and diseased; for the employment of the idle, and correction of the disorderly. Bridewell is that hospital nominally devoted to the latter objects, namely, employment and correction of the idle and disorderly, but in practice effecting neither; vagrants indeed are confined here for a few days, and then passed to their respective parishes; and disorderly persons are committed to this prison, where they are suffered to wear away the time in total idleness, except, if it be worthy of notice, when they are employed in cleaning the prison.

The whole system is radically bad; although ostensibly a house of correction no attempt is made to reclaim the prisoners or to correct them, except by administering corporal punishment, which is left in a great measure to the discretion of the porter. No employment of any description is provided; spinning machines have been erected, where some of the

5.
Bridewell.

women are employed; but the men saunter about from hour to hour in those chambers where the worn blocks still stand, and exhibit the marks of the toil of those who in other times were employed in beating hemp.

Your Committee are not prepared to enter into detail when reporting on Bridewell. Certain abstracts of accounts have been produced by the treasurer, the steward, and the clerk; but from these abstracts Your Committee are not enabled to form any opinion; they are too general, and unconnected items of expense are generally included under one head. It certainly, however, does appear, that this well-endowed hospital has a revenue of about £. 7,000 per annum, and that in the application of its funds the objects of its institution have been almost entirely lost sight of. The arrangements of former times may have been very defective, but those of the present seem utterly useless, and in no one point corresponding with the real intent of the establishment.

It is not the wish or intention of Your Committee to throw any marked or particular blame on those who now act as governors; the evil has grown by gradual progress, and it is to be regretted that the attention of individuals had not been called to this subject, long ere this time. Little benefit is derived from Bridewell, as its funds are now administered. Vagrants, it is true, are received and fed, but this is only for a few days, and merely as a preliminary step towards removal to their respective parishes. Disorderly persons are confined, but the confinement is not corrective, and is by some held in ridicule. Apprentices are admitted and taught by the arts-masters, who might be more eligibly placed elsewhere, with equal or superior advantages, and at less expense.

It appears from the abstracts of the number of those confined, which were delivered to the Committee by the steward of Bridewell, that on an average of seven years, from Christmas 1809 to Christmas 1816, about 668 vagrants with passes, were annually received; of disorderly, about 268 were confined; and of city apprentices about 36; and this with the instruction of 30 or 40 apprentices, is the whole result of an expenditure of £.7,000 per annum. It is understood, that the vagrants with passes are not generally detained above seven days, including the days of committal and removal. Therefore, on an allowance of seven days to each, and at the charge of one shilling per day for food, the whole amount of merely maintaining such a number of vagrants ought not to exceed £. 234 per annum; so far as Your Committee are enabled to judge, the expense of the establishment seems altogether disproportionate to the relief given or services performed; and that a minute inquiry into the whole detail of the management and expenditure seems absolutely necessary, and may perhaps appear a fit subject for Parliamentary investigation.

Your Committee having thus laid before the House, what they trust offers a fair exposition of the present state of the *London* Prisons, it cannot be necessary to enlarge much farther. The general result of the inquiries of Your Committee has led to the conviction, that the Prisons are not altogether in that reprehensible condition in which, on some occasions, they have been held up to public reprobation. That evils do exist, the preceding Reports on each prison sufficiently indicate; but there have been of late, and previous to Your Committee entering upon the inquiry, very considerable and important improvements in progress. In fulfilment of their duty, however, Your Committee must restate the necessity of alterations in certain Prisons to which they have alluded in the particular Reports, and generally to repeat the suggestion which they

5. Bridewell. have thrown out in the Report of *Newgate*, namely, that if it is practicable, separate prisons should be appropriated to distinct classes of prisoners, as a measure promising a most essential improvement in the system. It is not the province of Your Committee to point out the means and arrangements for so desirable an object; the City Magistrates are the proper persons to consider the subject, and to bring about so beneficial a change. If, however, the City Magistrates see insuperable obstacles to such an improvement, Your Committee trust that some legislative provision to obviate these evils, may be brought under the consideration of Parliament early in the ensuing Session; and should it appear necessary to erect a new prison, Your Committee are of opinion, that it should be set apart for Females only, so that all the female prisoners may be confined in one place, and be subjected to a system of discipline and moral treatment, which from the example shown by Mrs. Fry, in the management of the women in Newgate, would, in the judgment of Your Committee, produce most beneficial results.

In closing this Report, Your Committee beg to be understood as having left untouched several important points respecting the general treatment of prisoners, on which it would be incumbent upon them, if this inquiry should be again intrusted to them, to deliver a more mature opinion than they are now prepared to express.

1 *June* 1818.

APPENDIX: VIZ.

Minutes of Evidence taken before the Committee.

Mercurii, 27° *die Maii,* 1818.

Mr. ALDERMAN WOOD, in the Chair.

Mr. *John Thacker,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Thacker.

THE Committee wish to inquire of you, the circumstances connected with the two descriptions of Court of Request debtors, namely, the county and city?—In the county side of the prison the moment a man gets discharged in any way, we liberate him.

Are there any detainers lodged from the county in the keeper's possession?—Only Court of Request detainers.

Supposing a person is in as a Middlesex prisoner in the Court of Requests, and there should be a detainer lodged against him for any other debt, is it lodged in the keeper's hands?—If we have any thing, it remains in our books; I do not know that ever it has happened, that there has been a Sheriff's detainer against a Court of Requests debtor in my time.

They are immediately liberated on settling the debts?—Yes.

And you do not search any office whatever?—None whatever; we just see that there are no Court of Requests detainers in our books against him, and then out he goes.

Do you know, whether the warrant is directed to the sheriff or the keeper?—I am pretty certain it is directed to the sheriff; but there is a declaration on the back, "delivered into the possession of the keeper of the New Prison for London and Middlesex."

Are the prisoners committed by warrant from the Court of Requests in the city of London liberated immediately, in the same way as the debtors committed by warrant from the Court of Requests for the county, on settlement of their debts?—No, they are not.

Are they not immediately liberated in the same way, the moment that the time is expired of their confinement?—No.

What steps are necessary to be taken previous to their liberation?—It is necessary for them to apply to the Secondaries office, and the clerks of the papers on each side of the prison, for a scrutatus, and if there is nothing against them, it is certificated from the three offices, and signed by Mr. Collingridge, Mr. Hicks, and Mr. Walker.

What means have they of applying?—They send a messenger to the offices.

They must pay that messenger?—They must pay a messenger. It costs them nothing at our place; but they must send a messenger to the Secondaries office of course, and they must pay him; it is in Coleman-street.

Is any thing charged for that scrutatus in regular office hours?—I believe not.

If an application is made at any other hour than the regular office hours, is any charge made?—Yes.

What charge is made during term?—I think the charges out of office hours are all alike, in term or out of term.

What is that charge?—I am not able to answer.

Is there a different charge of fees demanded on holidays?—Yes.

What is the amount of charge demanded on holidays?—Twelve and sixpence; and there is an instance of a man, whose name was Mercer, whose time was up on Whitsunday, the 10th of May, and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday being holidays, the man was not liberated till Thursday, not having the means of getting a scrutatus.

Have there been many other instances of persons being confined for want of the means of paying their fees?—Certainly, there have.

Supposing

Mr. John Thacker.

Supposing that an individual is committed to prison on more than one execution, must he remain in prison for each execution the number of days that applies to each debt he owes?—Yes; on one side of the prison he must, the Middlesex side.

How does that apply to the London side?—If they are in on three executions of sixty days each, sixty days will release them from the whole.

Do you mean to say, that if a detainer was lodged, the individual would, at the conclusion of the first sixty days, be confined in prison for an additional sixty, if such were the amount of his debt?—If that detainer was lodged after he had served part of his time, he must stay till the time was made up on that detainer; but they often come in with two or three detainers against them; there can be no set-off for the time the man is in prison before the detainer is brought to us.

Samuel Collingridge, Esq. called in; and Examined.

S. Collingridge, Esq.

YOU are one of the secondaries for the city of London?—I am.

Do you consider it the duty of the keeper, in case a Court of Requests debtor is in the custody of the keeper of the prison in Whitecross-street, for the city of London, on his compromising with his creditor, or upon his serving his time of commitment out, to search your office?—I think it not only his duty, but for his own safety, for he indemnifies the sheriff against all risks of escape from that prison; for as the debtor is committed to the Compter, he immediately becomes the prisoner of the sheriff, and the sheriff would be liable for the escape of the prisoner if there were any writs against him, either from the superior courts at Westminster, the Mayor's Court, or the Sheriffs Court.

For that search in your office, is any charge made as fees?—Not to my knowledge.

Either out of office hours or on holidays?—Not to my knowledge, in either case; I have inquired of every clerk in the office, and they have all assured me, that nothing is taken in the Secondaries office, nor have they ever refused to make a search either out of office hours, or on holidays.

Do you know whether they have ever refused to give a certificate of that search?—Not to my knowledge.

Do you consider, that any clerk of that office, would be justified in demanding any fee for making such search out of office hours, or on holidays?—Certainly not; it never has been the habit since I have been in the office, and I have now been there three-and-twenty years, to take fees of any kind from Court of Request debtors; we consider them poor distressed people, and my orders were, never to take a single farthing from any person of that description at any time, even when fees were allowed to be taken; and my positive directions are never to refuse a search, or to take a fee, that is objected to, from any prisoner whatever; it has been usual to take fees out of office hours, and on holidays, and the reason is, that it is an encouragement to the clerks to stop after hours, and to come on days when they cannot be expected to come; but that does not apply to the Court of Request debtors.

Do your clerks take any fees in the case of other debtors?—They do out of office hours, and on holidays; they take a fee of five shillings for a search; but I do not believe it amounts to five pounds a year, and it is a sort of thing that is so trifling in itself, I would rather pay them out of my pocket than make any objection to it; it is done for an encouragement to the clerks, to attend out of office hours, and on holidays.

Mr. *John Hicks*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Hicks.

WHAT are you?—Clerk of the papers in the sheriffs office in London, in the Giltspur-street Compter.

How many years have you been in that office?—I have been in the office, I believe, if I say sixty years, I shall be very near; and clerk of the papers, I believe, from the year 1770.

Are you of opinion, that it is necessary for a search to be made in your office, before any debtor of the Court of Requests of the city of London be discharged?—I am of that opinion, that it is requisite and necessary; and I remember that the prisoners have always been entered as regular debtors with the others, and always searches made, considering that the sheriff is liable in case there is any other debt against them, and therefore they always search the Secondaries office, as well as the other offices.

What are your office hours?—The hours are, in term time, from 11 to 2, and from 5 to 7 in the evening; and out of term, from 11 to 3.

What

Mr. John Hicks.

What are your holidays?—There are a few of the Saint days; the King's birthday, Easter, Whitsuntide and Christmas, are always kept.

All holidays have always been observed in your office?—Yes, the same holidays are kept in truth at the Secondaries.

Supposing that a search is made in those office hours, is there any charge made to the debtor?—Not any thing.

Supposing any search is made out of office hours?—To my knowledge, there is nothing paid; I receive no fee I can safely say, nor do I know of any fee being taken for it.

Does not your clerk receive any fee?—If he does, it is more than I know; I have heard it mentioned, there is a fee of half-a-crown taken; but my clerk has not accounted to me for any such fee.

Have you ever known that he has taken such a fee?—No.

Supposing a search is made during the holidays, is any charge made?—Not to my knowledge; the clerk has generally come on the holidays, to know if any thing is wanted.

Then you know of none, nor do you authorize your clerk to receive any fees? —No.

Either out of office hours, or during holidays?—No.

Are you aware of any prisoner being detained from three to four days, from not paying his fees?—I am not.

Then if it had come to your knowledge, that a person during the holidays had wanted to make a search, you should have immediately ordered that certificate to be given, if there was no detainer against him?—Clearly so.

What is the name of your clerk?—James Shannon.

Do you pay him a salary?—Yes.

And he is not authorized to take any fees whatever for his own use?—No.

Does your clerk take any fees on a search on holidays?—I have heard once that he took a fee, and that he rendered no account of to me. I heard he had received half-a-crown on a holiday.

Mr. *John Walker,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. John Walker.

WHAT are you?—Clerk of the papers for the Poultry Compter.

How long have you been in that situation?—I think it is fourteen years.

What is your opinion of the necessity of the examination or search in your office, in case of a Court of Conscience debtor having any detainer lodged against him?—I consider it to be absolutely necessary for the safety of the sheriff.

Are the hours of your office the same as those of the Giltspur-street Compter?—Precisely.

In searching at your office, are there any fees paid during office hours?—None.

Are there any paid out of office hours?—None, to my knowledge; and I believe never in the case of a Court of Conscience debtor.

Are there any on holidays for a search?—None.

Can a prisoner search your office during every holiday?—No, because the clerk may not always be there on holidays; but when he is there, he invariably searches without taking a fee.

Have you had any instance of a prisoner being detained one, two, or three days, to your knowledge, for want of a certificate?—Never; but I have always left word with the turnkey, that if a search is wanted, whether the clerk is there or not if they will come to my house in the Old Jewry, I will there make it for them, so that they shall not be detained.

To your knowledge, does your clerk take any fees from this description of debtors, the Court of Conscience debtors, for any thing he may do for them?—I have reason to think he does not.

Do you pay him a salary?—Yes, I do.

Is he authorized in any way, from you, to take any fees?—None.

What is his name?—William Oney.

You have no knowledge of a person of the name of Mercer being detained in the prison, his time having been out on the 10th of May, till the Thursday, in consequence of the holidays, and he was not enabled to pay a fee of twelve shillings and sixpence? —I have no knowledge of such circumstance.

Does your clerk take any fees for other debtors, not being Court of Conscience debtors?—He does not state to me that he does; but I believe that he has done so, but not of Court of Conscience debtors; he has taken half-a-crown.

Mr. *George Anderson*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. George Anderson.

HOW long have you been the baker of Giltspur-street Compter?—From the 11th of August to the present time.

How many years have you been a baker in London on your own account?—Ever since the year 1794, excepting two years that I was out of business.

Then you have been a baker above twenty years?—Yes.

On your appointment to be baker at Giltspur-street prison, it became your duty to bake the bread also for the prison of Newgate?—Not at that time; not so early as that.

When did you begin to bake bread for Newgate?—It was some time early in January last.

Has there been any complaint made against the bread that you have baked for Newgate?—There was a complaint of bread that was made upon the 12th day of January; that was quite heavy.

What was the cause of that bread being so heavy?—It was owing to the yeast not being good enough, not strong enough.

And you were therefore deceived by the quantity of yeast not being equal to the quantity of flour, from its being too weak?—Exactly so.

There was only one batch of that bread that was of that heavy quality?—Only one.

How long might that batch of bread be sufficient for the supply of Newgate?-Only one day.

At the time that you were commencing to bake for Newgate, was the flour with which you were supplied supplied by contract or not?—That I do not know any thing about.

Was there any flour ground in the prison at that time?—Yes, there was.

Was there a sufficiency ground for supplying both prisons with bread?—No, not at that time.

Then there was flour purchased and added to the quantity ground in the prison?—Yes.

Was the flour at that time ground in the prison of a good quality?—I think it was; I have not much recollection at this distance of time; but it was pretty fair, I believe.

Was it dark in colour at all?—The Committee will understand, that when it is ground and dressed in the manner that whole meal is, it must be dark in the colour; it is the nature of it to be so.

Was that that was purchased in good flour?—It got very soon hot after it came in.

You mean generally speaking?—No, not generally speaking, only the ten sacks that we had in.

Only one cargo?—Yes.

Was there much of that which got hot?—One sack of the ten which we had in.

Had you any opportunity of knowing the quality of the wheat that was ground by the mill at that time?—No.

Have you any reason to suppose, that the wheat was not of the best quality that was ground at that time?—I have not.

On the whole, have you considered the flour to be of fair quality?—At that time I did.

At any subsequent period, did you consider the flour that was purchased, and delivered to you to bake, not to be of an equally good quality?—I thought it was very good since that.

Was not there, in the beginning of February, some flour that was of exceptionable quality?—Not in the beginning of February.

And at no period since the commencement of baking for Newgate?—Yes, sometime since February there was some that was not so good.

Was that ground in the prison?—It was ground in the prison.

You are a judge of flour; do you consider that that arose from that corn having been damaged?—I do.

Was there much of that?—I really cannot say how much there was; but it was very soon over.

The prison mill is now able to supply a sufficient quantity for the bread for both prisons?—Yes.

Is the flour now of good quality?—It has been very good for some time.

When

Mr. George Anderson.

When you commenced baking, you were in the habit of baking in pans?—Yes.

Did you bake in pans from choice?—I was ordered to do so.

By whom?—There was a person who made the pans, and I was told that I was to bake in tins.

Which do you consider the preferable mode, to bake in tins, or without them?—I think the present mode is as good a way as to bake in tins; if you bake in tins at all, the best way is to have a tin for each loaf; if not the best way is to bake on the bottom of the oven.

You had not tins for each loaf?—No, we used to put them side by side, sixteen on a tin.

Was there any necessity for baking in tins?—At that time there was, before the oven underwent alterations; it was a common brick bottom, and now it is made of proper baker's tiles.

You have stated, that you have been above twenty years a master baker; admitting that it is whole meal, would you, as a tradesman, consider the bread that you now bake, as of good quality and wholesome, and fit for the use of any customers who choose bread of that quality?—That question can only be answered by those people who make choice of eating it; I cannot be a judge of people's taste.

You consider it of a wholesome good quality?—I do.

Have any complaints whatever been made of the bread, since the flour has been altogether supplied by the prison mill?—None at all.

You have stated, that when there was a batch of heavy bread, it was owing to the brewer having supplied weak yeast?—It was owing to the yeast not being good.

Was that brewer employed after he had so supplied bad yeast?—No, we left him.

Then the Committee are to understand, that you consider that the flour is of excellent quality, being ground from wheat of good quality, and that it is not exceptionable in any way?—I do not see that it is.

Lunæ, 1° *die Junii*, 1818.

ALEXANDER BOSWELL, Esquire, in the Chair.

Richard Thomas Balden, called in; and Examined.

Richard Thomas Balden.

ARE you a turnkey in Whitecross-street prison?—I am.

Were you formerly a turnkey in the prison in Giltspur-street?—I was.

How long have you been employed as a turnkey?—On my own part, about seven years; my father has been dead seven years, and I succeeded him.

Have you any charge of these prisoners committed from the Court of Requests?—I have.

Are the prisoners from both the county and city courts committed to the same parts of the prison?—They are committed to Whitecross-street prison, but not to the same part of the prison.

Is there any difference in the warrants by which the individuals are committed from those different courts?—Yes.

In what does the difference consist?—In the warrants from the city, the officer, upon leaving the prisoner, endorses upon the front of his warrant, "his fee to be taken."

The officer's fee?—Yes.

Upon what occasion is such a fee paid?—In case of a compromise by the prisoner; but the whole of the fee is taken by the sheriff's office in the Compter to which the person may be sent; there is a sheriff's office for each Compter under the roof of Whitecross-street prison.

Is there any such fee marked on the warrant from the county court?—None.

In the event of a prisoner from the city of London compromising a debt, and making full payment of debt and cost, is the keeper entitled forthwith to discharge him?—In case of a compromise, he is not?

What is requisite to be done?—A person, whether it be the friend of the prisoner or the plaintiff, must bring a certificate from the officer who arrested the party, saying he is the plaintiff; for that purpose we refer them to the sheriff's office, to Mr. Hicks or Mr. Walker, according to the prison the prisoner might belong to.

Richard Thomas Balden.

Is this certificate called a scrutatus?—It is.

And must be signed by the clerk of the Secondaries office, by the clerk of the Poultry compter, and by the clerk of the Giltspur-street compter?—Yes.

Is any fee paid for that scrutatus?—In case of compromise, there is 1*s.* 8*d.* charged by the sheriff's office, with a fee, endorsed upon the warrant, for the officer.

Is any fee charged for making the search?—None; I would wish to observe, that where the wife goes with the plaintiff to the court to get the officer's certificate, certifying that the plaintiff is satisfied, in some cases the officer takes the fee before he will give that certificate, and then there is but the 1*s.* 8*d.* taken by the office.

Do you mean in your answer, that no fee is taken out of office hours?—Yes; there is a fee taken then.

Do you mean to say, that a fee is taken on holidays?—Yes; fees are taken both for the sheriff's debtors, and they are asked for by the Court of Requests debtors; but the people generally are too poor to pay them, and consequently they are forced to stay in till the holidays are over, whether they are one or three.

Does it consist, with your knowledge, that any such fees have been paid?—To the best of my knowledge I cannot call to mind (I have endeavoured) any Court of Requests debtors who have paid it; but I have known those in prison under process from higher courts, repeatedly pay it.

Confine yourself to small debts?—I cannot recollect one instance.

Do you mean to say, that you cannot recollect the names of the individuals, or that you cannot recollect that the fact has ever occurred?—I can recollect that they have stayed in custody in consequence of not being able to pay it till the holidays were over; we had this last Whitsuntide one who stayed three days.

That individual did not apply for a scrutatus?—I was at the key of the gate on Whit-monday, and I heard there from one of the turnkeys, that the man had got his discharge from the prison, and that it was a holiday, and he could not get out; he had compromised with the plaintiff; it is generally understood throughout the county part of the prison, that where there is a holiday, or it is after hours, money is to be paid, and therefore they do not attempt to get out unless some individual who is very anxious; a sheriff's debtor, who is afraid of losing his situation if he he does not attend to it, will pay the money; others do not.

Do not you know any particular case in which a Court of Request debtor has paid it within your own knowledge?—Not one; sometimes we have 20 or 30 out in a week; and it is impossible, in the multiplicity of business, to recollect the person, and very often I do not know a person may go till I receive the scrutatus.

What is the fee if a scrutatus is required out of office hours during term time?—12*s.* 6*d.*; the same as holidays.

What are the regular hours that the clerks are required to stay in their respective offices?—A clerk in vacation ought to attend from eleven in the forenoon to three in the afternoon; in term time from eleven to two in the forenoon, and five till seven in the evening; and ten days after every issuable term, and seven days after the other two terms.

Are the clerks regular in their attendance in their offices during their stipulated hours?—In the Giltspur-street office, which Mr. Hicks belongs to, they are very correct; Mr. Hicks is there the moment the clock strikes; but in the Poultry office, I cannot say they are.

You say they are bound to attend during the stipulated hours for ten days after each issuable term, and seven days after the other two terms; do they attend regularly during those prolongations of the ten days and the seven days?—Not regularly in the Poultry office; but in the Giltspur-street office there is better attention a great deal. I have been at Giltspur-street compter yesterday, and saw Frost, and Mr. Teague the keeper, and I asked them, if they could call to mind any individual's name; but they could not, no more than myself.

But without recollecting the name of any individual, are you satisfied in your own mind, that any fee has ever been paid by a Court of Conscience prisoner?—I do not believe they have; I am satisfied they have been too poor to pay it, and in consequence forced to stay in.

Does it consist with your knowledge, that any fee has ever been demanded by these clerks from such debtors?—Yes; I have remarked at Giltspur-street office to the clerk, that such a person's time is out; and I have had for answer, it is a holiday, and that answer I have sent to the prisoners; and they were aware of what they would have to pay; that was at Giltspur-street; but at Whitecross-street I have not

had

Richard Thomas Balden.

had occasion to say so, for the office is so close, that they send their friends up to the office.

Have you known any of the clerks admit they have taken such fees?—I have only heard it from Mr. Thacker; I was ill at the time he was called to attend the Committee, and he called on me, and told me he had heard it.

Are detainers lodged at the prison against prisoners committed from the County Court of Requests?—Yes.

And when such detainers are lodged, is the individual confined for the number of days on the face of that warrant?—He comes in first on one warrant, when the detainer is left; that takes place from the day it is left. We had an instance of it yesterday; a county prisoner was in for 40 days on the first execution, and after ten days, a second execution came in for 20 days, and the two ran on together. We had an instance of a man of the name of Thomas, a plasterer, who came from Guildhall; and he came with five of these executions, and out of the five there were three of 100 days each, so that he would have 300 days to stay, besides the time for the two minor ones. He did not stay the time; he compromised, and went out again.

James Shannon, called in; and Examined.

James Shannon.

YOU are clerk to Mr. Hicks?—Yes.

Has it upon any occasion, been the practice in your office to require any fee from a Court of Conscience debtor for a scrutatus?—No; there is a fee which is paid upon all Court of Conscience discharges, on compromises; where a person stays his time, there is nothing paid whatever.

Are those fees authorized by the Act of Parliament?—I am not aware of that, whether they are, or are not.

In stating that no fees are required for a scrutatus, do you mean to say that no fee is required for such scrutatus out of office hours, from Court of Conscience debtors?—I do not know of a case.

You have never, acting as clerk, asked for such a thing?—Not to my knowledge; not within seven or eight years, certainly.

Have you ever required a fee for such scrutatus on a holiday?—Not from a Court of Request debtor.

Are you aware, that the prisoners are under an impression, that they must pay such fee?—I am not; I was not aware of it till the present inquiry.

Then in the event of a Court of Conscience debtor applying to you out of office hours, or on a holiday, you would have no hesitation in granting a scrutatus?—None whatever.

And would not think of requiring any fee?—We generally are regulated in that by the secondary; but it has never happened in the Court of Conscience debtors that they have charged a fee, or we should do it; when the secondary charges a fee, we always follow the example.

But you never knew such a fact with regard to a Court of Conscience debtor?—Never since I have been in the office, which is now fifteen or sixteen years.

William Oney, called in; and Examined.

William Oney.

YOU are clerk to Mr. Walker?—I am.

In the Poultry Compter?—Yes.

Has it ever occurred to your knowledge, that on a Court of Conscience debtor applying for a scrutatus, any fee has been charged to him?—There is a fee of 1 *s.* 8 *d.* where they have not stopped their time.

That is merely the officer's fee?—The office fee.

But in the event of a man having remained his full period, no such demand is made?—None.

Has there, upon any occasion, been any fee required when a scrutatus was applied for out of office hours?—Not that I am aware of.

You have never made such a charge?—No.

Has any fee been required on a holiday?—No.

On no occasion?—Not from a Court of Request debtor.

Were you aware, that the prisoners had the impression that they were under the necessity of paying a fee for a scrutatus out of office hours, or on a holiday?—I should think not, not Court of Request debtors; we have invariably discharged them at any time.

Have

William Oney.

Have any of the keepers ever informed you, that an individual's time was run, and that it was a pity that he should remain longer in prison, and you did not proceed to give a scrutatus after that information?—Certainly not.

Have you never stated, when such a circumstance has been named to you, that it has been a holiday?—No, quite otherwise; I should think, I have mentioned, that if they can get it done at the Secondaries office in Coleman-street, the scrutatus certainly should be granted.

Do you consider there was any difficulty in getting it done at the Secondaries office?—No, none.

Then, as far as you know, on no occasion whatever, has a fee been required for a scrutatus, when applied for by a Court of Conscience debtor?—No.